

Fulham Chronicle



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Thursday, July 9th 2015



■ ROAD TO RICHES: Traders and community leaders celebrated the revival of Fulham's North End Road with a summer market. SEE PAGE 3

● CALLS GROW TO OUTLAW EXTREMIST SPEECHES

'Silence campus hate preachers'

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CENTRAL London universities are facing a bid to stop the radicalisation of students in the capital with a call to ban all Islamist extremists from making speeches on campus.

The call comes as a report – to be published this week – will reveal that extremists made 123 speeches at UK universities last year. As London marks the 10th anniversary of the 7/7 bombings, which killed 52 and injured more than 700, demands are growing for the city's universities to close their doors to radical Islamists.

Previous attempts to block extremist speakers from universities have been opposed by professors in defence of academic freedom of speech, but in the wake of the murders of up to 30 British tourists in Tunisia a leading security expert is demanding a clampdown.

● By LWN reporters
GEOFF BAKER and
PATRICK MAGUIRE

"All Islamist extremist speakers should now be banned from every campus," said Professor Anthony Glees, Director of the Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies.

"The time has come to stamp out this activity on campus. Extremism cannot be justified in the name of academic freedom. It utterly revolts me that we are giving the mantle of academic respect to a process that can lead people to become murderers."

A report by the Students Rights group, a project run by the Westminster think tank The Henry Jackson Society, will reveal that more than 20 students who attended UK universities have either been convicted of terrorism or have died fighting

for Isis in Syria. Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the "Underwear Bomber" now serving life imprisonment in the USA for attempting to blow up a Detroit-bound airliner in 2009, was a former president of the Islamic Society at University College London.

Abdulmutallab began his studies at UCL in 2005, reading engineering and business finance, and earned a degree in mechanical engineering in June 2008. Security sources believe that he was radicalised and recruited during his college years. Abdulmutallab advertised speakers including political figures, human rights lawyers and former Guantanamo detainees. One lecture, Jihad v. Terrorism, was billed as "a lecture on the Islamic position with respect to jihad." He was the fourth president of a London student Is-

TURN TO PAGE 3

INSIDE THE CITY'S FREE WEEKLY



Eight lucky girls to star in new Annie musical

– see page 19



Duke ensures we remember Far East PoWs

– see page 13

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LONDON'S ALL-ELECTRIC DOUBLE DECKERS WILL REDUCE POLLUTION

Our famous red buses are going green

THE world's first purpose-built purely electric double-decker bus will enter passenger service in London this year, Mayor Boris Johnson announced, as he hosted representatives and major bus manufacturers from across the globe at City Hall for the first ever global Clean Bus Summit.

The summit and new trial underlines the Mayor's continuing efforts to reduce emissions from London's bus fleet, which is already one of the cleanest in the world. And thanks to this summit, following London's example will become more affordable for more cities.

Bus manufacturers including BYD, Volvo, Wright Bus, Optare Mercedes Evo Bus and Alexander Dennis attended the summit and committed to supporting cities in delivering fleets of new ultra-low emission buses. The World Bank and Green Investment Bank have also signed up to this commitment. This builds on the Global Clean Bus Declaration, developed by the Mayor in partnership with the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, launched in Buenos Aires in March 2015. Four additional cities – Amsterdam, Lima, Catalo-



FROM THE
MAYOR'S
OFFICE

nia (Barcelona) and Rome – signed up to the declaration, which is still open for additional signatories, at the London summit.

Reductions in capital costs for new technologies like electric and hydrogen buses will be key in achieving their wider deployment. The clear commitment by more than 24 cities and 10 non-C40 supporting cities to introducing ultra-low emission buses into their fleets will help demonstrate the demand needed to boost supply and affordability. Working with bus manufacturers to accelerate the roll out of these cutting edge vehicles is a win-win for governments and their citizens, who get to enjoy the benefits of lower carbon and air pollution emis-

sions savings achieved in a cost-effective way.

Since 2008, the Mayor has rolled out more than 1,300 hybrid electric buses, retrofitted more than 1,400 buses to reduce their emissions by up to 88 per cent and developed the new Routemaster, one of the cleanest double deck buses of its type in the world. There will be 800 new Routemasters on London's streets by 2016 and they will reduce CO2 emissions in the capital by around 27,500 tonnes a year.

This is part of the Mayor's plan to halve nitrogen oxide emissions from the bus fleet by the end of his term in office in 2016, compared to 2008. Cleaner buses have contributed to important steps forward in air quality for Londoners, including halving the number of Londoners living in areas above nitrogen dioxide limits, reducing nitrogen oxide emissions by 20 per cent and emissions of particulate matter by 15 per cent.

Many believed that a purely electric double-deck bus would not be possible due to the size of battery packs required to power it. However, by working with BYD and utilising the latest cutting edge technology London has been able to secure another world-first. The new electric double-

decker trial will see the zero-emission electric double-deck buses manufactured by BYD enter service on route 16 from October, running between Cricklewood and Victoria Station.

London will also shortly be welcoming two Irizar-manufactured electric single-deck buses. These new models join eight single-deck electric buses manufactured by Optare and BYD which have been used successfully in London's fleet since 2013. The capital's first pure electric bus route, the 312 between Norwood and South Croydon, will also start later this year.

The Mayor said: "The iconic red double-decker bus is about to become greener than ever. I could not be more pleased that London will play host to these exciting pure electric double-deck buses, and I'm sure the lucky users of route 16 will embrace it with gusto. London is a world leader in clean buses but we can't do it alone, and events like this Clean Bus Summit are key to making further progress."

Sir Peter Hendy CBE, London's Transport Commissioner, said: "We have blazed the trail when it comes to green bus technology so it's fitting that the first Clean Bus Summit should take place here in the capital."



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■ **STORY TO SELL:** Residents celebrated summer in Fulham's North End Road on Saturday, June 27 at a pedestrianised and extended summer market packed with a wide variety of stalls. Building on the success of the traffic-free festive market last December, the summer market had 150 stalls lining both sides of the high street up to Lillie Road, selling great gifts, beautiful crafts, jewellery and art, stylish clothes, delicious cakes, hot food, refreshing drinks – and loads more. The expanded summer market is part of a big push by the council to revive North End Road.



Action call to get rough sleepers off the streets

● By LWN reporter **JACK DIXON**
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

CHARITY leaders are warning that homelessness is on the rise in London – with potentially hundreds of vulnerable people sleeping rough on the streets of Hammersmith and Fulham every night.

According to new figures, more than 7,500 people were found to be sleeping on the streets during the last 12 months – a 16 per cent increase on the previous year.

The statistics were produced for the annual Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN) report, commissioned by the Greater London Authority.

Now the St Mungo's Broadway charity is calling for action to tackle the growing problem.

Chief executive Howard Sinclair



■ **COMPLEX ISSUES:** charities are concerned more people are sleeping rough in London.

said: "The rise in the number of people seen sleeping rough is deeply concerning. This is a problem affecting many different groups.

"The number of people from the UK seen sleeping rough in 2014-15 increased by nine per cent to 3,212 people, but it is also clear that new groups of people are ending up on

our capital's streets who have very different stories and reasons for being there, with migration from Romania being a significant driver in these most recent figures.

"We should be careful not to jump to conclusions on short term trends, but we do know that traditional routes off the streets are often not available or appropriate for these groups. We believe that people living on the streets following migration is an issue which requires a joined-up policy approach from the UK government and the European Union as much as from local government. We will be raising this at a European homelessness conference in Paris this weekend."

Mr Sinclair said outreach teams would continue to offer personalised support to help people as quickly as possible, particularly the most vulnerable.

'No Second Night Out' hubs, commissioned by the GLA, are an impor-

tant part of this approach, he said, with more than a third of rough sleepers attending the centres and more than eight out of 10 not seen on the streets again.

Mr Sinclair added: "St Mungo's Broadway will continue to work with local authorities and others to understand and tackle these issues. This report underlines the importance of tracking the underlying trends and adjusting how we work together to bring the headline figure back down.

"As the GLA's rough sleeping protocol says, the overriding aim of outreach services should always be to help rough sleepers move off the streets as quickly as possible and avoid returning there, because sleeping rough is harmful, dangerous and therefore unacceptable.

"We and others are picking up the pieces of complex situations with a pressing need for new discussions and policy responses at national, European and local levels."

Ministers urged to reject airport report

COUNCIL chiefs have called on the government not to pursue expansion plans for Heathrow airport, after the controversial scheme was backed by the Davies Commission last week.

The commission finally recommended a third runway at Heathrow, despite strong opposition from communities under the flight paths that would be affected by noise.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham Council, said: "We carried out a resident-led, evidence-based review both for and against expansion. The resident-chaired review found Heathrow expansion would have an adverse impact overall. We're urging the government to listen to Hammersmith and Fulham's and many other west London residents, and come forward with a better option than the Davies Commission has proposed. The borough's resident-led commission into Heathrow highlighted how many of our residents already have their sleep shattered by aircraft noise and it would put extra pressure on our roads and increase air pollution. No amount of mitigation could make this acceptable. We are urging the government not to support proposals which would be a nightmare for residents and make no financial sense."

The council set up a resident-led commission which reported back earlier this year and found Heathrow expansion would have a negative impact on the borough.

The commission's chair, Christina Smyth, added: "For Hammersmith and Fulham the findings of the local residents commission was that the overall impact of a third runway would be adverse. The risk is that the residents of Hammersmith and Fulham will pay a heavy price for benefits which are largely elsewhere."

The government is not bound by the Davies Commission's recommendations and is expected to publish a formal response in September.

Professor urges ban on extremist orators

FROM PAGE 1

Islamic society to face terrorist charges.

Earlier this year the National Union of Students conference voted its opposition to the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act on the grounds that it "created and exacerbated a growing culture of Islamophobia".

Reports at the time claimed that the NUS was working with the controversial London-based Islamic advocacy group CAGE, whose stated aim is "to highlight and campaign against state policies developed as part of the War on Terror".

But the NUS has now moved to completely disassociate itself from CAGE.

NUS President Toni Pearce said in a statement: "I want to be clear that we have no relationship with CAGE, and will not be working with CAGE in the future. I am wholly unapologetic about the fact that NUS will not work with CAGE, which is a deeply problematic organisation. It is clear that its leaders have sympathised with violent extremism and violence against women, and people associated with the group have sympathised with anti-semitism. And this isn't just the view of NUS – Amnesty International have similarly stated that the views expressed by representatives of CAGE have been unacceptable, and at odds with human rights principles."

Professor Gleeves is also calling on the Government to take new action to prevent radicalised students and other adults who leave the UK to fight for Isis in Syria to be banned from returning to Britain.

He told the BBC: "When it comes to people over the age of 18, I think we should do everything we can do to convince them that this is a very bad choice and indeed could be a fatal choice. However, once they have gone it seems to me that we say 'You've gone, go and never come back'. Those who fight for Islamic State have torn up their allegiance to the Queen and the UK and they are fighting for another country."



■ **WARNING:** Professor Gleeves



■ **HELPING HAND:** A volunteer project to help improve the health and wellbeing of Hammersmith and Fulham residents is celebrating its first birthday. Local community champions have been providing valuable help from three 'hubs' – in Old Oak, the Edwards Wood Estate and Parkview – over the last 12 months, offering maternity support and help with other health issues. Maternity champion project worker Carmella Obinyan is pictured with new parents at one of the scheme's drop-in events.

Have your say on proposals to improve danger junction

TIME is running out for residents to have their say on plans to improve a dangerous road junction in Earl's Court where three pedestrians have been seriously injured and another killed.

Kensington and Chelsea councillor David Nicholls and four other councillors are pressing Transport for London to provide pedestrian crossings at the junction of Finborough Road with Warwick Road and Old Brompton Road. TfL figures reveal that there have been 16 collisions at the junction in the past five years, of which eight involved pedestrians.

Redcliffe ward councillors David Nicholls, Marie-Therese Rossi and Charles Williams and Earl's Court councillors Fenella Aouane and Malcolm Spalding have been calling for

greater safety measures, causing TfL to announce a consultation on the danger junction. But while the councillors have welcomed the consultation into improving the junction, they say they are concerned that proposed changes do not go far enough because there is no provision for safe pedestrian crossings over two major roads: Warwick Road and Old Brompton Road.

Councillor Nicholls raised his concerns at a meeting of Kensington and Chelsea Council last month.

He said: "There have been a number of collisions at the junction in recent years, some serious, including one fatality. There is no provision for pedestrians to cross Warwick Road or the western limb of Old Brompton Road in safety – but this is where most of the

collisions take place. Whilst the consultation makes some welcome suggestions for improving crossings on Finborough Road and on the eastern part of Old Brompton Road, it is most regrettable that Transport for London have decided to ignore our local residents who have to use the remainder of the junction – and these numbers will only increase when the new supermarket is opened on the corner of this junction.

"For too long our neighbourhood has been blighted by traffic using these busy arterial routes and it is time we put the safety of residents first."

The deadline for a response is 27 July. TfL's consultation can be found at <https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/roads/a3220-finchborough-road>



■ **BETTER HEALTH CAMPAIGNER:** Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter has called for action to tackle potentially dangerous levels of air pollution in the borough. The Labour MP said London smog was most likely to affect the most vulnerable in society, such as children, the elderly and those with heart and respiratory conditions. Writing on his personal website, he pointed to statistics suggesting as many as 72 people a year in Hammersmith and Fulham die prematurely due to the effects of air pollution. Mr Slaughter said he was backing the work of the Healthy Air Campaign to clean up London's streets. He said: "People in Hammersmith know that the environment is one of my biggest passions as an MP. The Healthy Air Campaign do a valuable job in highlighting the invisible killer of air pollution."

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STEPHEN COWAN writes

From the Leader's Office

ON Wednesday July 1, The Davies Commission recommended a third runway at Heathrow airport. That is the wrong decision.

Shortly after voters gave my fellow Labour councillors and I control of Hammersmith and Fulham Council we set up a borough-wide, resident-led, evidence-based review of the proposals to expand Heathrow. It had people on it who were for and others who were against the third runway but in the end it concluded that overall the impacts on the borough would be adverse.

There are better options, such as expanding Gatwick and improving national and international rail links. I urge the government to listen to our residents and look for those better proposals.

David Cameron should listen. Just over five years ago he was as definitive. "The third runway at Heathrow is not going ahead, no ifs, no buts," said Cameron to an audience of environmentalists.

The Prime Minister has changed his tune on many things since then. His huskie sledding through the Arctic photocall is a distant memory and he now refers to the environmental agenda he once cosied up to as "green crap" but if Cameron U-turns on Heathrow his explanation will be littered with ifs and buts.

In H&F, the proposals to expand Heathrow will mean more sleepless nights, extra pressure on our roads and increases in pollution for our already pol-

luted air. There is no effective government plan to mitigate any of that and even if one is produced it is hard to imagine Chancellor George Osborne and his team of treasury ministers will sign off the necessary funding.

Explanations that many of these problems will simply lessen as new cleaner, quieter aircraft replace the older ones don't stack up within the necessary time scale and even the Davies Commission itself admits expanding Heathrow would mean many more people affected by noise compared to expanding Gatwick.

Heathrow expansion would actually mean an extra 250,000 flights a year and doubling passenger numbers to 150 million. It would cost at least £17.6 billion compared to Gatwick's £9.3bn and costs are expected to rise. Transport for London has said it would cost another £17bn to create the necessary transport links for an expanded Heathrow.

The government is expected to publish a formal response in September. It is not bound by the Davies Commission's recommendations. But Mr Cameron should feel bound by his earlier commitment and not sanction an expanded Heathrow.



● HORSES FACE DEATH PENALTY IF STABLES CLOSE

March to save riding centre

● By LWN reporter **GEOFF BAKER**
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LED by two old horses under the threat of execution, the Westway community staged a mock funeral procession on Sunday in a protest against the imminent closure of the West London Stables and plans to develop the area.

Hundreds of residents joined the march and wake, led by JJ and Ned, two of up to 12 horses that will have to be shot if The Westway Trust's move to close the stables goes ahead.

Sarah Tuvey, owner of the endangered stables, which have provided riding opportunities for West Londoners since 1989, is facing having to close the riding centre when her lease runs out at the end of this month.

She revealed that the stables' most popular pony – 27-year-old Bouncer – is also on the death list because no new home can be found for him and the other doomed animals.

"Bouncer will have to be put down if we shut, which will break the hearts of hundreds of local children because everybody has ridden him, he's the most popular pony in the yard," she said.

"He's too old to live in a field and he gets laminitis, so he couldn't do anyway, and so if we close, very sadly Bouncer will be lost."

BUT hopes have been raised of a stay of execution after indications of an eleventh-hour change of heart by landlords The Westway Trust.

"I've just been told by the Trust that I may be able to have an extension of the lease so that I can find new premises," said Sarah.

"Everyone else has been told that their leases are to be extended by three years. I'm hoping that this may be the case because, if it is, it will make a big

difference to everything and the horses could be saved."

Sunday's march was organised by Westway 23, an organisation of local residents, community groups and traders united to defend the rights of the community and the 23 acres held in trust for the benefit of residents by The Westway Trust.

The march started at the stables and proceeded through all 23 acres of the site which is marked for regeneration before climaxing at Portobello Green.

Westway 23 said: "We held this march because the Trust has revealed its strategy of Destination Westway to replace the vibrant areas of the Westway, Portobello Market and Acklam Road with Portobello Village and a series of commercially-driven 'clusters'.

"Although the Trust is supposed to be supporting the community and providing for its benefit, it is selling the soul of Portobello by proposing sterile and generic shops and unaffordable flats that will wipe out an area of huge cultural value with a thriving community. We are not against change; but any developments must be beneficial to the prosperity, health and well-being of the community for whom the land is held in trust."

A spokesman for Westway Trust said: "We have not offered an extension of the lease but we have received a request for one and this will be considered by the Property and Regeneration Committee at its next meeting. The welfare of the horses is paramount and we have offered to provide help, including financial support, to ensure this and to make sure that the transition to a new site or sites goes smoothly."

"There have been suggestions that some of the horses may have to be put down because suitable new homes cannot be found for them. We have taken professional advice on this matter and have been assured that there would be absolutely no necessity for this. It is simply sensationalism."

"As a charity, our remit is to serve the interests and needs of the local community. Therefore, we commissioned an independent review to objectively



■ **DEATH THREAT:** Ned, one of the horses at the West London Stables that faces being put down.

help us understand the demand for, and benefits of, horse riding and other sports on that site. The review will also outline the financial and other resources required across a range of options. The findings of the review are currently being considered by an independent panel set up by the Trust to oversee this work.

"This panel includes two representatives of Westway Stables Ltd as we want to ensure the needs of the people they serve are factored into our

plans. The outcome of the review will be considered by the Westway Trust Board in due course and a report setting out findings and next steps will be made public at the earliest opportunity.

"We have to try to balance the often competing needs and desires of the multiple and different sections of the community with the land and resources that are available. This is not always easy. We have certainly not ruled out equestrianism at Westway, either in its current location or elsewhere"

Stage favourites join fight to stop station

TOP stars Felicity Kendal, Cherie Lunghi and Trevor Eve, pictured, have joined 1,500 other residents who are fighting plans to build a Crossrail2 station in the middle of Chelsea. The trio have joined the recently-formed Chelsea Residents' Association to oppose plans by Transport for London and Mayor Boris Johnson to build a huge station on the King's Road. Kendal, Lunghi and Eve have put their names to a petition to the Mayor to scrap plans for a £1.5 billion station on the site of the Fire Station.

The anti-Crossrail association is aiming to get up to 15,000 signatures to the petition and is now launching a door-to-door leafletting campaign throughout Chelsea to make residents aware of the plan, which the association claims would cause eight years of building misery and traffic chaos to the King's Road.

"We are calling on people door-to-door because it is surprising how many residents do not know about the Crossrail2 plan and its consequences," said organiser Gordon Taylor. "Felicity Kendal has a particular interest in this as the proposed tunnels would go right under her home."

"A Crossrail2 station in the King's Road would destroy the cherished special character of the Chelsea we know. It would take eight years to build, causing massive disruption, and as the area is already well-served by bus and Tube services, we do not need it."

Mr Taylor said many Chelsea residents did not yet appreciate how gigantic a King's Road Crossrail station would be.

"The platforms would be 240 metres long, the twin tunnels would be 20 feet in diameter and they would be digging down for 100 feet. Boring these tunnels and creating a huge station with four exits would lead to settlement damage to many buildings."

"Houses on or near the proposed route and service areas may well be blighted and difficult



to sell. The King's Road adjacent to the proposed station site could be closed for two years, causing enormous traffic congestion and disruption."

"Quite simply, the residents of Chelsea do not want this and every day more people are joining our campaign to oppose the plans."

Call to reject airport plan

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LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

Friends of the Holy Land garden party



■ **MAGICAL MUSIC:** String Quartet Sfourzando entertain guests at the Kensington Friends of the Holy Land annual garden party.



■ **MIXING WITH FRIENDS:** A cocktail of conversation and Pimm's provides a refreshing opportunity to share views and fellowship.



■ **GOOD COMPANY:** Ilir Havoland and friend at the Friends of the Holy Land garden party.

Bishop's message of hope: 'Think of them not as refugees but as relatives'



■ **LUCKY DRAW:** Bishop Nicholas Hudson wins two tickets to the Kensington Odeon in the garden party raffle.

LUCKILY the sun shone for this year's Kensington Friends of the Holy Land's annual garden party, held in a beautiful "Italian garden", constructed for the day, on the forecourt of Our Lady of Victories Church, High Street, Kensington. The event raised just over £4,000.

Bishop Nicholas Hudson, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, thanked everyone involved in organising the garden party. He encouraged everyone present to continue in their efforts to support the Christians in the Holy Land.

Reflecting on a recent visit to Iraq he said he was struck by how the local Chaldean Archbishop, when talking of the assistance being given to refugees, referred to them not as refugees, but as relatives, part of our family.

It was this spirit that impressed him and was applicable to the Friends of the Holy Land in its work helping Palestinian Christians.

Mgr James Curry, Chairman of Friends of the Holy Land, Kensington, commented: "This year

the Holy Land. Christians belong in the Holy Land."

Returning from a recent visit to Gaza, Fr Mark Madden gave a poignant speech at the garden party about the plight of Christians in Gaza, outlining the difficulties they faced.

And in Bethlehem, the heart of Christianity, Christians there also faced daily difficulties. Was it any wonder that Christians were leaving the Holy Land in droves?

Fr Madden suggested the four Ps by which everyone could help – prayer, pilgrimage, pay and pressure.

He explained: "Please pray for our brothers and sisters in the land of Jesus. Make a pilgrimage there to witness the hardships faced by Palestinian Christians. Be generous. And fourthly, bear witness to their plight."

Bishop Hudson will lead the Westminster Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in November.

■ Friends of the Holy Land is a charitable organisation supporting Christians in the Holy Land. Their work is entirely non-political and is carried out with the backing and blessing of Catholic and Anglican Bishops in England and Wales.



■ **FELLOWSHIP:** Father Madden and Bishop Hudson share time together at the party.



■ **AND THE WINNER IS...** Mgr James Curry and Bishop Nicholas Hudson.

The event was sponsored by Kensington estate agents Rickman Properties



has been an extremely challenging one for all the peoples of the Holy Land.

"However, it has not been without hope. Pope Francis canonised two remarkable Palestinian women, St Marie Alphonsine Ghattas and the Carmelite nun St Mariam Bawardi. They are the first saints to be canonised since the first days of the early church in Palestine and Israel."

Mgr Curry continued: "They remind us that it takes faith to keep building a just and peaceful society. Christians are an essential part of the rich mosaic and diverse culture that is



■ **NOTEWORTHY:** String Quartet Sfourzando provide musical entertainment.

The Met looking for more volunteer cadets

THE Met Police are on the lookout for new cadets in Kensington and Chelsea. Anyone aged between ten and 18 can join and there's lots on offer for young cadets.

The Volunteer Police Cadets is a uniformed voluntary youth organisation supported by the Metropolitan Police Service.

Cadets get to help their local community by giving out crime prevention advice and acting as stewards

at local events. Their expertise is also called on at major events outside the borough such as the London Marathon, Trooping the Colour and Remembrance Day.

As well as performing these civic duties the cadets have the opportunity to take part in four competitions a year:

● Annual Metropolitan Police Service Cadet Competition at Hendon - which consists of police-based

and physical scenarios

● Thriftwood - a combination of physical and problem-solving activities performed as a group. ● Iron Team - based on 'I'm a celebrity get me out of here'

● Spring competition - a physical and problem solving competition.

They also get to see police work close hand when they visit different police sections including the Air Support Unit, the Marine Police, the Mounted

Branch, the Firearms Unit and the Forensic Unit.

The Volunteer Police Cadets in Kensington and Chelsea meet in North Kensington on Thursdays from 6.30pm to 9pm.

If you're interested in joining or would like more information, contact PC Jayne Richardson on 020 8246 0667 or email jayne.s.richardson@met.police.uk

SMOKE ALARMS IN RENTED PROPERTIES

New laws coming soon

Landlords will be required to:

- **Fit at least one smoke alarm on each floor of their premises**
- **Fit a carbon monoxide alarm in rooms containing a solid fuel appliance**
- **Check that all alarms are working when a new tenancy starts.**

To help landlords prepare for the new laws the Government has provided 500,000 free alarms.

These are available from your local fire and rescue service. Visit **www.alarms4life.com** for more information or to find your local service.

Please don't wait – **act now** and request your free alarm. It could save someone's life.

Alarms
4Life



A small change to save lives

Landlords across England are being urged to act now to ensure they are ready for new safety laws aimed at saving dozens of lives a year.

The new regulations will make it compulsory for all landlords to fit smoke alarms in rented homes. Under the new laws smoke alarms must be fitted on every floor of the property as well as carbon monoxide alarms in properties which burn solid fuels. Landlords must also check the alarms are working at the start of every new tenancy with potential penalties of up to £5,000 if they don't comply.

The Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA) campaigned for more than two years for the legislation to be introduced. Working closely with landlords and the main landlord associations and groups it presented key evidence and research into the Government's national review of the issue.

Mark Cashin, Chair of CFOA's Home Safety Committee, said: "We are delighted that the Government has worked with us to bring in these new laws which will improve the safety of families and stop dozens of people from losing their lives to fire each year.

"While overall smoke alarm ownership in the country stands at around 90%, those living in private rented homes are far less likely to have a working smoke alarm. Statistically people are four times more likely to die in a fire in the home if there is no working smoke alarm and over the next 10 years it is estimated that the new laws will result in 231 fewer deaths and 5,860 less injuries."

The new regulations do not apply to social landlords and Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) as these are both covered by other existing laws.

To help landlords gear up for the new regulations, which subject to Parliamentary approval are expected to come into force this October, the Government has provided local Fire and Rescue Services with a limited number of free smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to distribute to give out ahead of the regulations coming into force.

Landlords can request their smoke alarm from London Fire Brigade by emailing PRSSmokeandCOAlarms@London-fire.gov.uk.



Pupils get to taste a healthy breakfast

COLVILLE Primary School, located just off Portobello Road, focussed all of its energy on a breakfast celebration on Friday morning providing students with an experience they will not forget.

Seven different stations were set up with a range of delicious breakfast foods for the students and their parents to enjoy.

The purpose of the event was to make students and their families realise the importance of this first meal of the day.

Currently, one third of Colville Primary pupils are regularly skipping breakfast and 8 per cent are not eating breakfast at all. Some of those who do eat breakfast are making unhealthy choices such as high sugar cereals (42 per cent) or jam on toast (33 per cent). All

By LWN reporter

students were encouraged to sign and display their pledge to eat a healthy breakfast every day.

Year 4 teacher Amal Elhabti explained: "Many students are skipping breakfast or eating poor quality breakfast foods and, by doing so, they are missing out on their full capacity to learn."

"Our teachers see some of the students hitting a mid-morning slump that can impact on their mental concentration and performance in the school."

"This week-long Food Explorers food education programme, in addition to our exciting breakfast festival at the end of the week is intended to focus the whole school as well as the parents on the importance of this first meal of the day."

The Colville breakfast celebration included:

- A scrambled egg-cooking demo with The Food Explorers and Head Teacher Jagdeep Birdi using free-range eggs donated by Rookery Farm and herbs from Colville's Kitchen Garden.

- A Whole Foods Market granola stand.

- Two smoothie bikes. One provided by Blendavenda and the other by AIP.

- AIP school catering chefs cooked up delicious pancakes and eggs as well as running a competition to guess how much sugar is in our breakfast foods.

- Interactive Zumba classes were run by Virgin Active Notting Hill.

- Guests who attended the breakfast included Victoria Borwick MP, David Millard from the Tri-borough Healthy Schools Award Partnership, school governors and a public health nutritionist.

Jenny Hewlett, co-founder of The Food Explorers says, "We realise that a shift in attitude and behaviour needs to take place and this Food Explorers week as well as Colville's breakfast festival is a positive way to kick start that change."

"Essentially, we are using fun, hands-on educational activities available through the local community to

help students make better food choices for life."

The Food Explorers Week at Colville Primary included student trips to the new edible teaching garden in Holland Park to learn about how food is grown; Jamie Oliver's Recipease cooking school; Phoenix Farm for harvesting fruit and vegetables; and Whole Food Kensington where the students learn about sustainability and food provenance.

In-school activities included a visit from Rookery Farms chicken farmer Rupert Langmead with his hens, as well as teen chef Millie Lagares for a breakfast making demonstration.

All the Colville teachers have been trained by a reg-

istered dietitian to teach the students how to read food labels and uncover hidden added sugars in drinks and breakfast cereals.

● The Food Explorers is a Community Interest Company that partners with local experts to educate school children about how their food is made, where it comes from, cooking skills, as well as sharing their multicultural food heritage. Funding for Colville Primary's week-long Food Explorers education programme was provided in part by RBKC Colville Ward's City Living, Local Life. www.thefoodexplorers.co.uk



■ TASTY: Two Colville Primary pupils enjoying a healthy breakfast



NEWS FROM NICK ...

with Nicholas Paget-Brown, Leader of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Who said there's nothing to do this summer...

ABOUT this time of year a booklet drops on my desk which makes me wish I was back at school and looking forward to the long summer holidays.

The booklet in question is our Summer in the City offering which, in short, is the antidote for parents to any pleas of boredom from their children or an excellent riposte to the much heard summer cry of "there's nothing for me to do".

Take it from me, there's plenty for the borough's young people to do this summer and you can check out the full range of activities, most of which are free, at www.mysummerinthecity.org.uk. The booklet is also available in schools and libraries.

Summer activities have really moved on since I was a boy. My horizon then was a trip to the local adventure playground or a session of rounders replete with a squashed packed lunch to be washed down by a sweet drink containing the sort of e-numbers that today would have Brussels' bureaucrats firing directives off in all directions.

But it's not like that now; things have changed for the better. This summer our children can sign up for a five-day dance camp, taught by top professional choreographers for free, so if dance is your thing then look up the Dance Academy.

I'd have jumped at the opportunity to

give kayaking a try and our young people can take to the Thames or the canal, with trained instructors, and pick up an exciting new skill. And trust me, these instructors know what they are doing – I had the pleasure of them coaxing me in a kayak all the way from Cremorne to the Houses of Parliament and back.

There's also a chance to become a filmmaker at the Video College in North Kensington. Here young people aged 12

to 19 can watch feature films, review them for a website and make a short film while learning about editing, lighting and sound. All for free.

I can't do justice to all that's on offer. But there really is something for everyone.

If you're a young sportsman or woman – give us a try. If the arts are your thing

then look us up. Young scientists are catered for as well with some fantastic workshops covering maths, engineering and computing at The Royal Institution in Westminster – I think there's a fee for this though.

Needless to say the borough's excellent libraries and youth clubs have lots on offer and are also a great place to find out what's going on.

So, let's banish all thoughts of "there's nothing to do" to the dustbin of history – the summer is upon us, schools will soon be on holidays and there's more than enough to do!

See page 12

CHRIS IS RACING TO BEAT PARKINSON'S



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To contact the Leader of the Council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, email theleader@rbkc.gov.uk

LWN**KENSINGTON NEWS**

'Forgotten' cartoonist honoured

IT'S A conundrum likely to give even the most battle-hardy pub quizzers a headache: what links India's first Prime Minister with a Brideshead set cartoonist and writer whose school run outfit was a pastel blue jacket, co-respondent shoes, a bright pink shirt and a yellow bow tie?

Though most would reach for a smartphone - or another drink - the answer is obvious to residents of one Ladbroke Grove street, who last week saw a more colourful figure, Sir Osbert Lancaster, honoured with an English Heritage blue plaque across the road from one dedicated to esteemed statesman Jawaharlal Nehru.

Last week's unveiling of the plaque dedicated to Sir Osbert - known and loved by the public as the rapier wit behind the thousands of cartoons he produced for

By Patrick Maguire

the Daily Express between 1938 and 1981 - brought a throng of local residents, politicians, historians, scholars and a rogue Daily Telegraph cartoonist to the street outside 79 Elgin Crescent (Nehru's nestled above the door of number 60), the house where the prolific mischief-maker was born in 1908.

The well-attended ceremony was organised by the Ladbroke Association - the area's conservation society - in association with English Heritage, and saw daughter Cara Lancaster unveil the familiar-looking blue and white tribute after a number of speeches from guest writers and scholars.

Addressing the audience, English Heritage's Rosemary Hill explained that Sir Osbert would join the ranks of "the famous, unjustly forgotten and occasion-

ally notorious" commemorated by London's ubiquitous blue plaques - a set of criteria that Elgin Crescent surely fulfills as well as any other street in the city.

Hill, a member of the Blue Plaques panel which took over a decade to fulfill Sir Osbert's biographer Geoffrey Roome's dream of a permanent memorial for the cartoonist, also gave a timely reminder of the area's less salubrious past - extensively chronicled by the author himself in his memoir 'All Done from Memory', in which he describes taking walks in the area to seek solace amid the air raids and Doodlebugs of World War II.

To laughter, she alluded to Sir Osbert's well-documented dandyism, and said: "some people are commemorated on houses they could never hope to afford today, and others are commemorated in areas where they wouldn't be seen dead".

Geoffrey Roome, who said that "Notting Hill and Ladbroke Grove had an enormous influence" on Osbert's work kept the waggish spirit of the legendary humorist alive as he gently ribbed Kensington and Chelsea council leader Nick Paget-Brown and the Mayor of the Royal Borough, Councillor Robert Freeman.

Roome said that Sir Osbert, "a livery lover", would have loved the sight of "a mayor in chains" - and in the spirit of his architectural satires, suggested "muscle man Baroque", "late Elizabethan bunkerism", "neo-Troglodyte" and "Ladbroke Grove grotesque" as formal names for today's increasingly popular basement extensions.

The contemporary of John Betjeman, Evelyn Waugh, P.G. Wodehouse and the Mitford sisters was said to have written of the area's "panorama of decay"

- a world away from the leafy splendour guests enjoyed at the evening's drinks reception, laid on by the Ladbroke Association in nearby Rosmead Gardens.



Advertiser's Announcement

Supporting Help For Heroes

ESTABLISHED seven years ago by managing director and founder Phil Carroll, Pimlico Painters have built up a large team of specialist and experienced tradesmen that include plumbers, plasterers, tilers and decorators for interior and external work, operating in Westminster, Kensington, Chelsea and the surrounding area.

The company has recently adopted the Help For Heroes as their charity for the year and will be raising funds for this worthy cause by entering a team in the British 10k London Run pm Sunday, July 12th.

A spokesman person for the company told the LWN: "Although we are a small team, we think it is important that as a company we put time and effort into helping others. We have therefore partnered with

Help For Heroes and they are now our official affiliated charity - so we want to do as much as we can to raise funds for this great cause.

"We are also part of the Barclays AFTER programme - a scheme which helps ex-military members get back into work following their time in the armed forces. We currently have an ex-British Army soldier working with us and he is thriving in his new role as a painter and decorator.

"Raising money for Help For Heroes is something we are very passionate about."

Their fundraising page is:
www.justgiving.com/pimlicopainters
For more information about Pimlico Painters go to the website: www.pimlicopainters.com

● IN last week's K & C News - in a profile of the Royal Borough's longest serving councillor, David Campion, we incorrectly stated that he represented Pembroke Ward. This should have been Pembridge Ward. We apologise for this error.



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UNDER THE WESTWAY

Good communications vital to success

Angela McConville, Chief Executive, Westway Trust, looks forward to hearing the views of the residents and traders who live and work under The Westway

GETTING out of the office and creating time for reflection is really important. Twice a year, we try to do exactly that with our trustees and the Westway Trust management team. Last Friday was one of those days.

We didn't have to go too far, travelling just across the river to a meeting space provided by one of our partner organisations. However, it gave us a really valuable opportunity to reflect on our recent work, grapple with some of the challenges facing the Trust, fine tune our 15 year plan and celebrate key achievements along the way.

As our Board of Trustees is newly formed, it also provided us with a great opportunity to get to know each other better, to continue to strengthen our team-work, and to build our approach to getting things done.

We welcomed Naomi Padi, a new trustee to our Board last Friday too. Naomi has re-

cently been elected by the Trust's membership to represent community interests on the Board. Naomi brings valuable insights in her role as Director of the Venture Community Association, as well as her experience in local projects that prioritise health and well being to the Trust's Board. I'm really looking forward to working with Naomi in the months and years ahead.

Throughout the day we covered a number of subjects, including our overarching estate stewardship plans for the next 15 years; our plans to support more community events and cultural programmes; updates from our community team on our apprenticeships, adult learning, childcare and volunteering initiatives, as well as our new, soon-to-launch Westway Trust Community Grants programme, which will see £100,000 being made available to local charities and community groups to fund events, celebrations and projects.

We also spent time reflecting on how we continue to deliver a competitive, innovative sports and fitness enterprise, and we considered the opportunities to enable more people to get more active more often with our support.

One incredibly important subject, which we discussed at length, was the role communications plays in our plans. We reflected on

the challenges of communicating sensitively and clearly with a diverse and changing local community. We challenged ourselves about how we keep abreast of who our communities are, how we understand their needs and aspirations, and in turn how we balance these needs in our future plans. We considered the many ways that the Westway Trust is trying to engage with the community and what we are learning through this work.

Big undertaking

It is 16 years since the Westway Trust undertook any major physical regeneration initiatives. And we are re-learning as an organisation how to best consult, collaborate and communicate with the local community. It is a big undertaking and one we take seriously. We want to get it right.

We know that in the early stages of the Portobello Village consultation we didn't get it quite right, but we are learning every day through what we do, and we are working hard to be open and responsive to your views and ideas.

Ultimately, we want to bring forward development proposals that have integrity, are viable, and will deliver significant social, economic and environmental improvements for the area. When I first joined the Trust, I received much feedback about how we

needed to communicate more and better. I hope there is now evidence of the range of ways in which we are trying to do just that.

I work as part of a terrific team of highly motivated people who come to work every day with the aim of doing the right thing, and doing what is best for the local communities of the Westway.

I am confident that the determination and integrity of this team will mean that as we travel on this journey together, we will win the confidence of local people and local groups. Our intentions are good and we are committed to working with you, and on your behalf, to bring about sensitive and appropriate developments throughout the estate.

Since our first public exhibition on the Portobello Village proposals, we have now engaged with more than 700 people, in workshops, at our market stall, via our website and in group consultations. We've learned a lot and this will inform the next phase of design work.

I am hugely grateful to everyone who took time to share their views. Look out in the weeks ahead for our new 'In Portobello' newsletter that will keep you up to date with what we've learned through this consultation process, and where we go from here with the proposals.

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IT ALL STARTS AT YES

Focus on fashionable Fulham



Revival in the history of Fulham

FULHAM, or in its earliest form "Fulanhamme", is uncertainly stated to signify "the place" either "of fowls" or "of mud" (which probably had to do with the fact that the River Thames would flood it periodically), or alternatively, "land in the crook of a river bend belonging to an Anglo Saxon chief named Fulla".

The manor is said to have been given to Bishop Erkenwald about the year 691 for himself and his successors in the see of London, and Holin-

shed relates that the Bishop of London was lodging in his manor place in 1141 when Geoffrey de Mandeville, riding out from the Tower of London, took him prisoner. During the Commonwealth the manor was temporarily out of the bishops' hands, being sold to Colonel Edmund Harvey.

During recent years there has been a great revival of interest in Fulham's earliest history, due almost entirely to the efforts of the Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group.

This has carried out a number of interesting digs, particularly in the vicinity of Fulham Palace, which show that approximately 5,000 years ago Neolithic people were living by the riverside and in other parts of the area.

Today, Fulham is one of the most expensive parts of London, with the average sale price of all property (both houses and flats) sold in the SW6 area in 2014 being £923,222.

Favourite for your pets

WAGGIN' TAILS Fulham Road, Chelsea

A LONG time staple of the Chelsea and Fulham neighbourhoods, **Waggin' Tails** is the area's favourite for every one of your pet requirements.

For the dietary needs of pets of all ages, we have a variety of healthy food options, including for those pets that require special attention. We can also advise you on maintaining the dental health of your animal and provide you with the proper tools.

With the addition of the Chelsea Veterinary Clinic two years ago, Waggin' Tails and its team of doctors and nurses are here to restore your animal's health and to keep them that way. We have up-to-date equipment for fast and accurate diagnosis, including immediate analysis of blood tests, and our surgical theatre is top of the line.

If your pet requires specialised care that we do not have in house, we have access to a network of specialists with which to guarantee that your animal will be properly diagnosed and attended,

with us providing the after care.

It is needless to say that a healthy pet wants to look its best as well. Our grooming parlour is famous for the care and attention dedicated to making your pets look their best, in the manner most suitable for their breeds and type of fur.

In addition, we offer a wide range of toys and accessories, including harnesses, leads and bedding options, to guarantee the happiness and comfort of your live-in friends.

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Website: www.wagintails.co.uk

Waggin' Tails Chelsea Veterinary Clinic and Surgery provides everything you need for your much loved pet; premium veterinary services, professional grooming, quality food, treats, toys, beds, apparel and all you might need to pamper your loved ones. Since holidays are approaching and many of you might need to leave your 4 legged best friends in boarding facilities, we would like to welcome you with a **Full Health Screen for just £45 + Free Kennel Cough Vaccination** so your pooch is ready for holidays. It includes a 60 minute consultation, blood and urine tests, faecal analysis and ear cytology and the Kennel Cough vaccination. All the tests are performed in-house during the consultation. We also carry out free dental and neutering consultations to guide you towards the right preventative plan of action.

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ESTABLISHED in 1987, **Hannam Hairdressing** in Fulham Road is now under new management who have created a stylish, relaxed and friendly environment.

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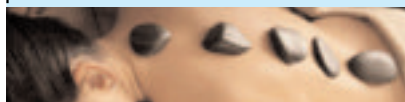
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LWN

LONDON WIDE



■ **THROWING DOWN THE GAUNTLET:** Paula Radcliffe is calling on Londoners to help make their borough the fastest in the capital.

Radcliffe eager to see which is fastest borough in London

ONE of the world's greatest athletes, Paula Radcliffe, is challenging runners from across London to show that they are London's fastest borough at this year's Morrisons Great Newham London Run.

Radcliffe is calling on residents from all 33 boroughs to sign up to the 10k event taking place in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to battle it out against thousands of other runners for the chance of being crowned London's Fastest Borough.

The cumulative times of runners in each borough will be added up with the winner announced following the run.

Paula is looking forward to seeing which London borough will emerge to be the fastest. She explains: "I am intrigued to see how fast the men and women of each London borough are. I'm sure there will be stiff competition and it will be great to see who is the fastest. 10k is great for the occasional runner or first timer. Most people can get ready with just a little training so I suggest all London residents get their trainers on and do their borough proud."

Up to 15,000 runners are expected to take part in the Morrisons Great Newham London Run on 19 July. All runners will get the chance to have their very own Olympic moment as they finish inside the Stadium

By LWN reporter

and cross the famous finish line which saw Olympic greats Usain Bolt, Jessica Ennis-Hill and Mo Farah win Gold in 2012. The course will also take in the sights of Lee Valley VeloPark, the London Aquatics Centre and the Copper Box Arena. This will be one of the few opportunities to see the newly developed stadium before the 2015 Rugby World Cup commences in September.

Get running

The Morrisons Great Newham London Run is aiming to become the biggest running event in Britain with 60,000 people taking part within five years. Radcliffe is an ambassador for the Morrisons Great Run series, where she is promoting mass participation running events. She wants to encourage more women from a wide range of backgrounds to get running and take part in the event.

● As well as the 10k event, there is also a Marathon Team Relay event with teams of four people each running 10.5k. Members of the general public who are interested in signing up can still do so at: www.greatrun.org/great-newham-london-run

Summer in the City 2015

YOUNG people won't be stuck for things to do during their holidays thanks to the 2015 Summer in the City programme which features hundreds of activities across the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster and Hammersmith & Fulham.

With free West End theatre performances, festivals, open air cinema, nature trails, cupcake making, video design and so much more, there's little risk of being bored.

There are also lots of activities for children with disabilities, run by specialist groups like Mencap and Action on Disability, and disability sports are provided by Epic CIC*. There are also specific activities for young carers, aged from five to 19 years, whose lives are significantly affected by caring for a family member.

From late June visit mysummerinthecity.org.uk for

the most up-to-date event information. Copies of the Summer in the City brochure will also be available in a variety of places across the three boroughs including schools, libraries, council buildings, children's centres and youth clubs.

Cllr Elizabeth Campbell, the Royal Borough's Cabinet Member for Family and Children's Services said: "I am delighted that we have been able to offer our young people so many opportunities to get the most out of their summer holidays."

"With hundreds of listings there really is something for everyone and I'd urge children and their families to take advantage of this action-packed programme."

● Epic CIC is the UK's first staff led youth mutual. Epic CIC was formerly the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Youth Service before becoming an independent entity on 1 January 2014.

Where To Find Your New Local Newspaper

FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS

London News

pick up points

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Sainsbury's Store	15-17 Tottenham Court Road	Central London	W1T 1BJ
Co-op	504-506 Harrow Road	Paddington	W9 3QA
Tesco Classic Metro	22-25 Bedford Street	London	WC2E 9EQ
Co-op	Golden Cross House	London	WC2R 0RG
Notting Hill Gate Library	1 Pembridge Square	Notting Hill	W2 4EW
Kensal Library	20 Golborne Road		W10 5PF

Westminster & Pimlico NEWS

pick up points

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Co-op	104-105 Benwick Street	Soho	W1F 0QS
Tesco Metro	18-28 Warwick Way	Westminster	SW1V 1RX
Tesco Classic Metro	Dean Street	London	W1D 3RS
Tesco Classic Metro	10-16 Goodge Street	London	W1T 2QB
Tesco Metro	90-100 Edgware Road	Westminster	W2 2EA
Co-op	19-21 Store Street	Westminster	WC1E 7DB
Coach & Horses Pub	23 Greek Street	Soho	W1D 5DH
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Kensington & Chelsea NEWS

pick up points

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Sainsbury's Store	158a Cromwell Road	Kensington	SW7 4EJ
Tesco Metro	146-148 High Street	Kensington	W8 6SU
Sainsbury's Store	Ladbroke Grove	London	W10 5AA
Tesco Metro	224-226 Portobello Rd	Notting Hill	W11 1LJ
Tesco Metro	114-120 Notting Hill Gate	Notting Hill	W11 3QE
Tesco Super Store	West Cromwell Road	Kensington	W14 8PB
Kensington Central Library	Philmore Walk	Kensington	W8 7RX
North Kensington Library	108 Ladbroke Grove	Kensington	W11 1PZ
Brompton Library	210 Old Brompton Road	London	SW5 0BS
The Tabernacle, Notting Hill	35 Powis Square	Notting Hill	W11 2AY
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Fulham Chronicle

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Fulham Library	598 Fulham Road		SW6 5NX
Tesco Super Store	180 Shepherds Bush Road	London	W6 7NL
The Grove Neighbourhood Centre	7 Bradmore Park	Hammersmith	W6 0DT
Morrisons	114-116 Shepherds Bush Centre	London	W12 8PP



INSIDE YOUR FREE ROYAL NEWSPAPER



Royals play key role for Battle of Britain 75th anniversary

PAGE 2



Ghost-hunters show spirit of adventure in royal buildings

PAGE 3



Duke ensures we remember PoWs



■ **REMEMBRANCE:** The Royal British Legion is playing a key role in VJ Day events.

THANKS to support from the Duke of Edinburgh, prisoners of war who suffered horribly under the Japanese are finally to get an official national remembrance day next month.

Commemorations to mark the end of the Second World War on August 15th are now to be extended so that Victory over Japan Day will also mark Far East Prisoners Of War Day.

The official recognition, coming 70 years after the end of the war, ends a long struggle for proper acknowledgement of those who endured some of the worst conditions of the entire global conflict. More than 140,000 Allied military personnel were POWs of the Japanese and more than 30,000 died as a

By Geoff Baker

result of starvation, disease and brutal mistreatment.

A further 37,583 prisoners from the UK, Commonwealth and Dominions forces were saved from certain death by the sudden end of the war – for in secret a year before the Japanese High Command issued an order to all POW camps for a plan to murder all prisoners, starting in September 1945.

On August 1st, 1944 the following orders were addressed to the Commanding General and Commanding General of Military Police: "Extreme measures for POWs: At such time as the situation becomes urgent, the POWs will be con-

fined under heavy guard and preparation for final disposition will be made. Whether they are destroyed individually or in groups or however it is done, with mass bombing, poisonous smoke, poisons, drowning, decapitation, or what, dispose of them as the situation dictates. In any case it is the aim not to allow the escape of a single one, to annihilate them all, and not leave any traces."

Fortunately, the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6th and 9th caused the Japanese surrender before the genocide could take place.

Now the remaining survivors of the Japanese camps are to be honoured with pride of place alongside other veterans, including those of the Burma Star Association, at a series of national commemorations on VJ Day and FEPOW Day on August 15th.

The events will be led at 11am with a commemoration service at St-Martin-in-the-Fields Church organised by National Far East Prisoners of War Fellowship Welfare Remembrance Association, representing POWs, civilian internees, their widows and families and all those involved in the Far East conflict.

This will be followed at 2pm by a flypast and traditional



■ **PACIFIC VETERAN:** The Duke of Edinburgh has backed moves to recognise the sacrifices made by Allied prisoners of the Japanese.



■ **REMEMBRANCE:** Crowds in Whitehall wait for news of victory in Japan in August 1945.

TURN TO PAGE 2

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ROYAL LONDON

Battle of Britain 75th anniversary appointments

WHERE TO SEE YOUR FAVOURITE ROYAL

FULL details of future and recent events in the ever-busy diaries of the many members of The Royal Family are available from the official website www.royal.gov.uk but here's the London schedule for the week ahead.

● Tuesday, July 7th

The Earl of Wessex, as Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will hold Receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in the Award.

The Earl of Wessex, as President of Creative Youth, will attend a performance at the Rose Theatre, Kingston upon Thames, as part of the International Youth Arts Festival.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President of Ambition UK, will attend a dinner to mark its 90th Anniversary at the Orangery, Kensington Palace.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Joint President of Cancer Research UK, will visit the Francis Crick Institute, 215 Euston Road NW1.

● Wednesday, July 8th

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Honorary Member of the Institution of Engineering Designers, will hold a reception to launch the Chartership of Product Designers at St James's Palace.

The Earl of Wessex, as President of the Sport and Recreation Alliance, will attend the Annual General Meeting at



■ **REMEMBRANCE:** The Royals will mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain during the coming week.

the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron of Friends of St Paul's Cathedral, will attend the annual festival service in the Cathedral.

The Duke of Kent, as President of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, will attend the Lawn Tennis Championships Wimbledon.

● Thursday, July 9th

The Queen, accompanied by **The**

Duke of Edinburgh, will review The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard and afterwards give a reception at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Kent, as Patron of the Canterbury Cathedral Trust will attend a reception at Sarasin and Partners, St Paul's Churchyard EC4.

● Friday, July 10th

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Marshal of the Royal Air Force, will attend a lunch to commemorate the 75th an-

niversary of the Battle of Britain at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly.

The Earl of Wessex, as Honorary Air Commodore, RAF Waddington and **The Countess of Wessex**, Honorary Air Commodore, RAF Wittering, will observe the Royal Air Force Fly Past commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Odiham, will attend a lunch to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Honorary President of the Lawn Tennis Association, will attend the Men's Semi-Finals of the Championships at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Wimbledon.

The Duke of Kent, as Honorary Air Chief Marshal, will observe the Royal Air Force Fly Past commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Kent, as Honorary Air Chief Marshal, will attend a Lunch to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly.

Princess Alexandra, as Patron and Air Chief Commodore, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service will

observe the fly-past of the Battle of Britain Memorial flight and Royal Air Force Typhoon aircraft to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain, at Buckingham Palace.

Princess Alexandra, as Patron and Air Chief Commodore, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, will attend a lunch to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly.

● Saturday, July 11th

The Duke of Kent, as President of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, will attend the Ladies Finals Day of the Lawn Tennis Championships Wimbledon.

● Sunday, July 12th

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Honorary President of the Lawn Tennis Association, will attend the Men's Finals of the Championships at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Wimbledon.

The Duke of Kent, as President of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, will attend the Men's Finals day of the Lawn Tennis Championships Wimbledon.

● Tuesday, July 14th

The Queen and **The Duke of Edinburgh** will give a reception for winners of The Queen's Awards for Enterprise at Buckingham Palace.

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Day for Far East veterans

FROM PAGE 1

Drumhead Service on Horse Guards Parade attended by top brass military representatives from the UK and Allies, veterans – military and civilian – and their families.

Current members of the Armed Forces will then lead veterans and their families in a VJ Parade down Whitehall and past the Cenotaph, before a 70th anniversary reception for them is hosted by the British Legion.

The Ministry of Defence stressed that the anniversary is not only to commemorate veterans of the war in the Far East but also to honour the POWs too.

"The anniversary aims to pay tribute to all those who served in the Armed Forces, including veterans from Britain's then Empire and beyond, prisoners of war and civilian internees from the conflict," said a spokesman.

The Minister of Defence, Michael Fallon, said: "Seventy years on from the final victory of Allied Forces, the debt of gratitude that we owe those who delivered it is greater than ever.

"This important anniversary will be an occasion for us to repay that debt once again – to the veterans of the campaign, to all those who lost their lives, and to the many military pris-

oners of war and civilian internees who suffered in captivity."

Both Parliament and the Royal Family will be officially on holiday on August 15th, but it is understood that the Prime Minister and a senior royal will attend the commemorations.

Although the Prince of Wales officiated at the 65th anniversary of the end of the war and at the recent VE Day commemorations, The Burma Star Association and former POWs are hoping that the Duke of Edinburgh may be given the lead role on the day.

They had been in prison for quite a long time and that experience was quite unnerving

Prince Philip

Although technically a less senior royal than his children and grandchildren, Prince Philip is not only patron of the Burma Star Association but he is also a war veteran who served against the Japanese in the British Pacific Fleet and it is therefore thought to be the most fitting if he leads the salute.

Prince Philip was first offi-

cer on HMS Whelp and saw much action, including Japanese kamikaze attacks on the fleet in 1945.

He was also in Tokyo Bay for the signing of the official Japanese surrender and it was there that he witnessed what he described as "a most traumatic experience" after the release of the POWs.

"A lot of the naval POWs in Japan were released and we ferried them out to the escort carriers in the bay," he recalled. "They had been in prison for quite a long time and that experience was really quite unnerving – everybody onboard knew what they'd been through and suddenly to find them sitting with you, it was a very emotional occasion."

The Royal British Legion is inviting Burma Star and Pacific Star recipients and their widows to apply for accreditation to attend the commemoration events on Saturday August 15th.

Direct descendants of Burma Star and Pacific Star veterans who are unable to attend or no longer living are invited to represent them at the Drumhead Service. For application forms, go to www.britishlegion.org.uk or call 0203 053 7015.

The commemoration service at St. Martins-In-The-Fields will be a ticketed event. For details, email enquiries@nationalfellowship.org.uk

ROYAL LONDON

Spirit of adventure in haunted historic houses

Ghost-hunters have royals in mind

by Geoff Baker

AS Buckingham Palace prepares to open its doors for the annual visitors' nose-about, a new type of tourist is joining the queue to look around the state rooms – royal ghost-hunters.

Believers in the paranormal are making royal homes and gardens a must-investigate destination after a number of claims of strange sightings – including fairies in the flower beds and the spectre of a giant bear at The Tower of London.

Although photography is not permitted inside a number of the royal residences, paranormal enthusiasts hope to sneak a selfie in the event of a strange encounter which even the official Historic Royal Palaces charity, which cares for the Tower and Hampton Court Palace, admits may exist.

The new craze began after a number of tourists reported experiencing eerie events while taking the tours.

The most notorious sighting is said to occur at Hampton Court Palace, the home of the great beheader King Henry VIII and where legend has it that his doomed queen Catherine Howard ran shrieking for mercy after she was condemned for adultery.

"Catherine was put under house arrest at the palace in 1541 but she escaped from her guards and ran down the gallery looking for the king to plead for her life. She was caught and was dragged back screaming to her rooms and later executed," says the charity.

"There is anecdotal evidence of a ghost there. Grace and favour residents in neighbouring apartments have claimed to hear screams coming from the gallery.

"Visitors today are strangely affected in the gallery. On one evening, during separate tours of the palace, two female visitors fainted on exactly the same spot in the Haunted Gallery."

Ian Franklin, a state apartment warder at the palace, hints that Queen Catherine may be still lurking about, with or without her head.

"I often walk down the Haunted Gallery and for some inexplicable reason feel as if something is not quite as it should be, things do happen in the Haunted Gallery," he said ominously.

For almost 200 years, visitors have been reporting sightings of another ghost at the palace, that of Dame Sybil Penn, the carer of Prince Edward who nursed Queen Elizabeth I when she caught small pox. Unfortunately, Dame Sybil's attentions led to her catching the pox herself and dying of it.

Now she is said to haunt the palace's state apartments and the Clock Court, where she is known as The Grey Lady.

More spectacularly worthy of a close encounter unlikely to be forgotten is the Grizzly Ghost said to inhabit the Martin Tower at the Tower of London.

Two bears lived at the Tower. One, a polar bear, was a gift to Henry III from the King of Norway in 1251. The unhappy bear was kept on a long chain close to



■ **NOTORIOUS:** The ill-fated Catherine Howard is said to have made her ghostly presence felt in the gallery at Hampton Court Palace.

the Thames and was expected to catch its own fish despite its restrictions. Was this the bear whose ghost that legend [again] has it once appeared to a guard so frighteningly that the Beefeater dropped dead of shock?

At Buckingham Palace there have also been bizarre claims from tourists of startling apparitions. Two years ago a visitor from Norway, Sten Stendsen, claimed to have seen the ghost of The Queen's grandfather, George V, in full daylight.

"Many guards and other tourists also claimed to have seen him," said an onlooker.

"It was at 12 o'clock on a Monday morning; Mr Stendsen was taking pictures of the guards outside of Buckingham Palace, when he saw a man coming out of a closed door. This man was wearing old-fashioned clothes, he had a grey beard and was wearing lots of medals and his description fits King George. The figure walked through the closed front door and then disappeared into the back of the palace.

There were many eye witnesses and some of the tourists tried to take photographs but the figure did not appear in any of their pictures."

Which is less than can be said for another ghost at Hampton Court, which was caught on CCTV in 2003, alarming the security staff.

The guards were alerted by alarms ringing close to an exhibition hall, indicating that fire doors had been opened. But when they rushed to the scene they found the doors still locked. Perplexed, they examined the CCTV footage and saw the heavy doors burst open – but there was nobody there.

Then weirdly, the same thing happened again, as the alarms rang at exactly the same time –

1pm – the next day and when they examined the footage again, this time they saw what Historic Royal Palaces describes as "a ghostly figure in period clothes" suddenly appear and slam the doors shut again.

Supernatural psychologist Dr Richard Wiseman said the spectre – now nicknamed 'Skeletor' by the palace staff – "might prove to be a significant discovery" in the quest to prove that ghosts exist.

"It could be the best ghost sighting ever," said Dr Wiseman. "I have never seen anything like it at all."

The Palace says that it was not only security staff who thought that they were seeing things. Visitors also claimed to have seen a ghost in the area and warder Ian Franklin adds: "I know many members of staff who don't like working in the exhibition area after dark. Maybe it's because of what they have heard about Skeletor."

Stuff and nonsense? Not according to the believers who are now visiting royal homes and parks in the hunt for a regal phantom.

Two months ago, paranormal 'experts' claimed that they had uncovered evidence of fairies living in the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh.

The spirit hunters examined the attraction to see if they could find any trace of the mythical natural sprites and spiritualist medium Gary Gray and UFO enthusiast Ron Halliday reported seeing globes of coloured light and being "not of this world".

The pair used dowsing rods to detect hidden energy, and said they were drawn to a 'portal' that allowed the fairies to cross between their world and ours.

Mr Halliday said: "There were a number of sites that had what

we call powerful psychic vortices – whirls of energy in constant motion that glowed with coloured light."

Dr Ian Edwards, head of events at the gardens, said visitors had reported feeling "vital energies that emanate from the trees and flowers."

But just as strange are the goings-on said to occur at Kensington Palace, which also has its doors open for public tours this summer. If you're going, keep your eyes peeled for Peter The Wild Boy.

According to reports, there have long been sightings of the ghost of Peter the Wild Boy. He was a lad found living in woods near Hanover in 1725 by a group of hunters lead by King George I, and was then brought to Britain to live at Kensington Palace. Peter allegedly roams the King's Staircase at the Palace.

Kensington Palace is said to be the home of three other ghosts besides; a man in white breeches who wanders the courtyard, an aunt of Queen Victoria who appears with a spinning wheel and King George II, who apparently appears on the roof staring at a weather vane.

According to Wesley McDermott, a leading expert on haunted royal homes, visitors looking for ghosts at any of the palaces could be in luck.

"It is said that the rear terrace

of Buckingham Palace is haunted by the ghost of an enchained monk in a brown cowl. He is believed to be the spirit of a monk who died in a punishment cell from a time when a monastery stood on the site," said Mr McDermott.

"Windsor Castle is perhaps the most haunted of all the royal residences, with as many as 25 ghosts reported. The ghost of Elizabeth I has been seen by several members of the royal family, including The Queen. Often seen in the library, her footsteps can be heard on the bare floorboards, before her striking presence appears.

"The ghost of George III has been witnessed, looking longingly out of the room beneath the library where he was confined during his several periods of madness. Henry VIII is said to haunt the deanery cloisters, often heard hobbling around, the sound of his ulcerated leg thudding on the floor as he walks and in the grounds of Windsor Great Park, the ghost of Herne has been reported. He was a huntsman for King Richard III. If you see his ghost anywhere in the park beware, as legend has it that you'll be struck by misfortune."

Buckingham Palace, Kensington Palace, Clarence House and Windsor Castle are open to the public throughout the summer. For details and links, visit – www.royal.gov.uk under



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SHOWBIZ SPECIAL

For the record, new way to see world's favourite band

Stones can't resist making an exhibition of themselves

by Geoff Baker

ABOUT 20 years ago the late and very great Neil Aspinall, The Beatles' roadie who in effect became their manager, had a good idea for a travelling photography exhibition which would chart the story of The Fabs.

As the band had broken up way back at the end of the Sixties, you could not send The Beatles out on tour. But, Neil reasoned, you could send the exhibition out on tour and if it was made sufficiently interactive and revealing, the fans would pay to see it.

The original idea was to launch the exhibition on home turf, at a new exhibition centre that was going to be built in Liverpool on the banks of The Mersey. But the plans fell through and Neil's vision was abandoned.

Move on two decades and now The Rolling Stones are to fill the gap with what sounds set to be the most extravagant and exotic exhibition ever mounted of the story of life inside a rock and roll band.

The show – called, naturally, *Exhibitionism* – will be massive; running through nine galleries on two floors of The Saatchi Gallery in Chelsea. It has already been three years in the planning and it will not be opening until April next year.

So why are we writing about it now? Because when the greatest rock and roll band in the world decides to pull the curtain aside to reveal what makes up the greatest rock and roll brand in the world, the demand to see it will be enormous.

It always is with London's favourite band; when they played in Hyde Park two years ago, all 65,000 tickets sold out in less than three minutes, despite the top seats costing £300.

So prepare yourself for disappointment when tickets for *Exhibitionism* go on sale on Friday [July 10th], because



■ IT'S COVERED: Iconic Rolling Stones records and artwork.

in December and Charlie Watts was 74 last month. But so what? For even at a venerable age, they remain the most popular band in the world, filling stadiums at the drop of a hat.

And the news from Mick is that they have every intention of still rolling on.

"I don't think that it means that it's all over just because we're doing an exhibition," says the planet's favourite front man, speaking from backstage on the Stones' current huge tour of the USA.

"We're still working and we will continue to do so. We've been thinking about the exhibition for a long time, collecting things and thinking we'd better hold on to this because people will want to see it. It's a look at your career and now is an interesting time to do it."

It is appropriate that *Exhibitionism* opens in 2016, for that marks the 50th anniversary of when The Beatles stopped playing concerts and the Stones stepped up to seize the crown as the greatest live act in the world.

The live experience has always been a big deal with the Stones. Other bands may have at times sold more records but nobody ever beat them on the stage and, for Keith Richards, it is the fact that the band continues to perform in their sixth decade that has kept them together.

"If you don't play live you lose that zing which was the motivation for you to get up and perform in the first place. You just become a studio musician, highly-paid but unsatisfied," says Keith.

The live side of the Stones will very much form a key part of the exhibition, which will include original stage designs, Mick's iconic costumes – once described by Keith as looking "like something out of a Chinese circus" – backstage and dressing room paraphernalia [oi oi], alongside unheard tracks, unseen video and home movies, personal diaries and letters, original posters, album cover artwork and, of course, their instruments.

"There's some incredibly interesting things that go along with The Rolling Stones, not necessarily the band members themselves, but all of the technol-

ogy and the instruments which have passed through our hands – half of them are stolen," said Keith. "A number of the guitars relate to certain recording sessions; for instance the one I played on *Gimme Shelter*, that fell in half in my hands, just as we got to the tail-out of the track the damn neck fell off!"

Another guitar that may feature in the show is the black Telecaster that Keith used to clobber a fan who invaded the stage during *Satisfaction* in 1981. Thinking that the intruder was aiming to harm Mick, in one fluid motion Keith unstrapped the guitar, whacked the fan, and then continued playing the song. Other fans were surprised that Keith would treat a prized instrument so roughly, but he revealed that, unlike some other musicians, he has no great reverence for the tools of his accomplished trade.

"Certain guitars I can relate to certain instances in the Stones' career but other than that, to me they are just working

“We have been collecting things and thinking that we'd better hold on to this because people will want to see it”

machines. I don't bow and pray to them," he said.

Mick Jagger says the band will be very hands-on with influencing the design of the exhibition, as you would expect as Keith, Charlie and Ron all studied at art colleges in London before becoming professional musicians and, since the band's birth, they have worked closely on album covers and stage theatrics with designers and artists including Andy Warhol, David Bailey, Ossie Clark and Alexander McQueen.

Ron Wood is still very much a professional artist, with his paintings selling for up to £300,000.

"It's very important that we get this exhibition right," says Charlie. "If we're going to give Mick something to worry about it should be that, that we get it right."

One of the fascinations of the show, with its costumes and stage gear, will be seeing how the whole Stones look developed since they started out in 1962, although Mick insists that the 'bad boys' look which the band defined so well was never planned.

"We're not really conscious of cultivating this anti-hero image, it's just the way that things evolved," he said. "It was never a case of sitting down as a committee and working it up."

Mind you, that slightly contradicts a memory of Keith Richards from the early days, when the band's manager Andrew Oldham was keenly creating the darkly-alternative image that so upset the Establishment in the Sixties.

"He used to have these plans for us getting publicity by getting thrown out



■ ARCHIVES: Early Stones material.

of The Ritz," Keith recalled. "He'd phone us up and say 'come down to The Ritz but make sure you're wearing your grotiest clothes'. Sure enough, we'd get chucked out and sure enough, Andrew would have a photographer from Fleet Street standing outside when we were."

At that time the Stones were living in a different part of Chelsea from where The Saatchi Gallery is situated now – a dirty flat in Edith Grove where the starving Stones lived on mainly potatoes and eggs pilfered from grocery shops on the Fulham Road and stale bread scavenged from parties given by other tenants in the house.

"It was there that we started songwriting," Keith recalled. "And the only reason we started was because Andrew locked Mick and I in the kitchen and said that he wouldn't let us out until we had written a song. I didn't know anything about writing a song and I remember saying, 'I think you're barking up the wrong tree here, Andrew'."

Thirty studio albums later and with sales of more than 250 million, it's another story now.

■ Exhibitionism will run at The Saatchi Gallery from April to October next year. It will then go on the road, visiting 11 other major cities around the globe until 2020. Tickets for the London show go on sale on Friday at 9am through www.stonesexhibition.com. Be prepared for them to be sold out by five past.



■ ENDURING APPEAL: The prolific Rolling Stones have long since reached legendary status, as a new exhibition will demonstrate.

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WINE & DINE

The food and
drink page for
West London

Shaw way to get the glow

CHEF and nutritionist Madeleine Shaw's diet plan doesn't just help her clients become healthier in the kitchen - it's improving their relationships too.

"One of the things that comes up all the time, is that people on the programme say they're less irritable," reveals the 25-year-old who lives in Wandsworth with her boyfriend Kieran.

"They say, 'My boyfriend or my husband or my partner, or whatever, is so happy because I'm less of a moody cow!'"

For Shaw's most famous client, former Made In Chelsea personality Millie Mackintosh, it's her luminous skin that's drawing attention, not the inadvertent marriage counselling. The pair worked together before model Mackintosh married rapper Professor Green in September 2013, and have remained friends ever since.

"Millie's always asking for tips because she's always doing photo shoots and looking glamorous, so I'm always helping her with that kind of stuff," says Shaw.

"But she's an easy client to work with. She's pretty naturally beautiful."

Hiring Shaw as a nutritionist may not be realistic for all of us, but at least her first book - *Get The Glow* - ensures we can try her methods at home instead.

"The programme's really holistic," says Shaw, who laughs as she explains how her boyfriend often has tester recipes "shoved down his throat".

"It looks at cutting out sugar, eating healthy fats and also thinking positively - not only about your health, but about food," she adds of the book, and her approach to fuelling body and soul. "It talks about mindfulness and meditation to combat stress. The last chapter is called Live Your Glow, which is of huge importance to me; it's not just about these six weeks, it's about living it long-term."

Shaw is radiant, positively glowing with health, but she admits she hasn't always had such a balanced approach to eating, describing her previous relationship with food as "torturous".

Up until her late teens, she says she ate "a typical magazine diet of Diet Coke and low-fat yoghurt" in a quest to stay skinny, assuming that low-fat options were healthy alternatives to their full-fat counterparts, but found herself constantly counting calories and lumbered with a raft of digestive



MADELEINE Shaw

problems and energy slumps.

That all changed when she moved to Sydney aged 18 to study, and started working at a cafe where, she recalls, "everyone was healthy and gorgeous".

"I had really bad irritable bowel syndrome, so I felt bloated and tired after everything I ate."

"Working at the cafe transformed my diet and my attitude to food. My energy levels have been much higher and I just feel like I can experience life to the maximum, which sounds super cliched but really is true."

With her IBS under control, her skin and hair "transformed" and a newfound confidence to boot, Shaw trained as a nutritionist and returned to the UK with bucket-loads of energy, keen to share her knowledge via her food and lifestyle blog. Soon, her reputation spread, and a roster of clients and social media fans followed.

She puts the programme's popularity down to its positive outlook.

"People think a diet plan is going to be really boring and plain," she adds. "When it's like that, you start to hate food and hate dieting, so this programme's about enjoyment."

"Every meal is delicious. I think you should enjoy everything you eat, you shouldn't have to put yourself through something [torturous] because you think it's healthy. I hope it's something people really take on and think, 'This is something I can do forever.'"

● *Get The Glow: 100 Delicious And Easy Recipes That Will Nourish You From The Inside Out* by Madeleine Shaw is published by Orion Books in hardback, priced £20 (£10.99 for eBook). Available now.

Ambitious growth plans for Italian restaurant brand

ITALIAN restaurant chain Bella Italia has announced plans to create over 150 jobs in London during the next year. The announcement of an ambitious growth plan for the chain will see 40 new sites opened, and 2,000 jobs created, nationwide by 2017.

The jobs in London will cover front of house team members, chefs and management positions, at a variety of levels of responsibility, providing opportunities for people at all stages in their careers, with comprehensive training available to skill them up as required. Between now and 2017, an average of 1,000 roles will be created at locations across the country, an investment trend that Bella Italia expects to continue year on year for the foreseeable future.

Bella Italia prioritises candidates with

the right personality and behaviour over experience, which means the roles are ideal for those in London who are new to hospitality and looking to break into the industry. With flexible working hours, it's also a great opportunity for mothers returning to work who need to fit a job around childcare, those with dependents, or those looking for a second job to provide additional income while fitting in around their existing employment. These positions are also sure to appeal to the rising number of 18-24 year olds struggling to find work.

Catherine McGuckin, HR Director for Bella Italia, commented: "It's incredibly exciting to announce the creation of so many new jobs in London, which we know will provide real opportunities for those looking for flexible, motivating

work, whatever their experience. We're investing heavily in our employer brand, including the launch of a new recruitment website, and these roles are a reflection of that. This comes as part of our national investment programme, which will see our whole estate refurbished, alongside the 40 new openings, by 2017."

To apply for a job at Bella Italia, please visit: <https://www.bellaitaliacareers.com>



MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Summer bean salad with Black Cow fritters

Serves 4

DEEP-frying little nuggets of cheese gives a salad a great texture - they end up playing a similar role to croutons, but are much tastier. You can use as many types of bean as you wish, even yellow wax beans, if you can get your hands on them.

150-200 mixed beans, broad, runner, bobby
1 x 200g Black Cow cheese, cut into rough 2cm cubes
2tbsp flour for dusting, seasoned
1 egg, beaten
3-4tbsp fresh white breadcrumbs
Vegetable or corn oil for deep frying
A couple of handfuls of small salad leaves like rocket, land cress, red mustard leaf, bulls blood
A few sticks of fine chives, cut into 3-4cm lengths
For the dressing
1tbsp tarragon vinegar
2tsp Tewkesbury mustard
1 clove of garlic, peeled
2tbsp rapeseed oil
3tbsp vegetable or corn oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

First, make the dressing. Put all of the ingredients into a clean bottle or jar. Give them a good shake and leave to infuse for an hour or so, or overnight at room temperature.

Now prepare the beans: thinly slice runners on the angle, if you are using them, otherwise cut as you wish.

Cook in boiling salted water for a few minutes until tender and then refresh in cold water.

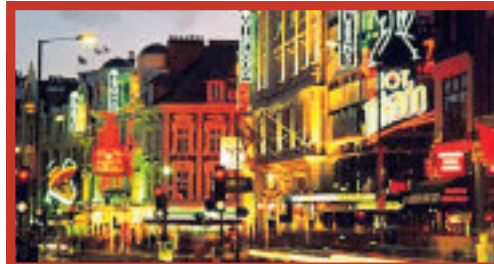
Preheat about 8cm of oil to 160-180C in a large thick-bottomed saucepan or electric deep-fat fryer.

Carefully roll the cheese in the flour, shaking off any excess, then pass through the egg, again shaking off any excess, and finally through the crumbs.

Fry the cheese in a couple of batches for about a minute, or until the crumbs are golden, then remove with a slotted spoon and drain on some kitchen paper.

To assemble the salad, toss the beans with the salad leaves, cheese and dressing and season. Now scatter on the chives and serve.





TALK OF THE TOWN

MUSIC ★ THEATRE ★ REVIEWS

The entertainment scene across London

Good team effort but short of pace

Bend It Like Beckham The Musical Phoenix Theatre ***

ON the night that England's women won through to the football World Cup semi-final, I was enjoying the ladies' game in a theatrical setting at the newly opened *Bend It Like Beckham The Musical* at the Phoenix Theatre, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Based on the 2002 movie starring Keira Knightly, the musical had been adapted for stage by its writer Gurinder Chadha along with the much celebrated song-writing partnership of Howard Goodall and Charles Hart.

Based in Southall, the story follows Jess, a football-mad teen from an Indian background who is desperately struggling to follow her dreams while trying to keep in line with her family's traditions.

On paper, this should be the perfect show for me. I've always been a bit of a Sporty Spice and really love musicals with original soundtracks. I love the film with its noughties charm and naivety but unfortunately this charm didn't quite transfer into the stage production and I found

a lot of the references and humour really quite out of date and not very funny.

Act one was quite slow to get going and lacked some of the colour and vibrancy which I was hoping for. Natalie Dew as Jess really tried to get the show moving and put in a fantastic performance as the stiff and awkward teen who is struggling to find her place in the world. Alongside her sister Pinky, played by Preeya Kalida, whose vocals were lovely but underused and loyal friend Tony, played by the effervescent Jamal Andreas, they did a sterling job of portraying the pressures put on young people to conform to both Western and Eastern ideals.

The footballing elements of the story were quite clever, with projections and flying footballs alongside some sagacious ensemble numbers. Dew showed some really high calibre skills with the ball and alongside Jules, played by Lauren Samuels, I found myself taken in by the athleticism and aptitude of the pairing.

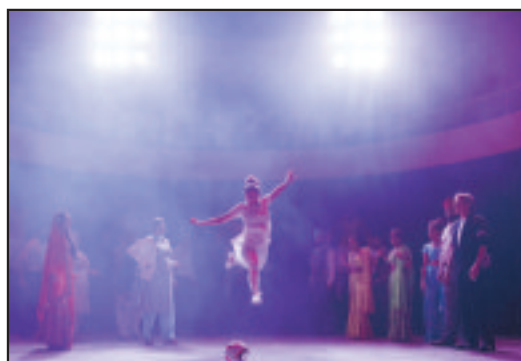
Samuels really shone with some sublime vocals, as the

friend who embraces Jess' talents and ingratiate her into the local women's footballing fraternity. Musically they had some of the best moments, in particular the quartet with their respective mums, which I felt really captured the frustrations and confusions often experienced between mothers and their daughters.

Jamie Campbell Bower as the coach – and object of both girls' affections – had some nice reciprocal action, but could have done with a little bit more oomph in his performance.

The pace did really pick up in act two and some of the ensemble numbers were so full of chromaticity and energy that you could feel a buzz enveloping the auditorium. There was a cameo appearance from the great Golden Balls himself – well, a lookalike – which brought a bit more humour and the dulcet tones of John Motson added a credibility to the match elements.

This is an entertaining show but I feel it would benefit from a more modern dialogue and a slightly more memorable score.



■ FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT: Bend It like Beckham.



JK Rowling offers Potter theatre magic

HARRY Potter and theatre fans alike were abuzz this week at the announcement that a new play will hit the West End next summer.

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child is based on an original new story by JK Rowling, Jack Thorne and John Tiffany.

The magical world of Hogwarts complete with its fantastical characters and vernacular is likely to be a big hit, with advanced sales poised to break West End box office records.

Produced by Sonia Friedman Productions, the play will receive its world premiere in London's West End in the summer of 2016 at the Palace Theatre.

Rowling and official sources say the show is not a prequel and instead said on Twitter: "I don't want to say too much more, because I don't want to spoil what I know will be a real treat for fans."

Tickets for *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* will go on sale this autumn. For more details visit the website harrypottertheplaylondon.com



■ JUMP TO IT: Eight lucky girls will get to star as orphan Annie in the West End.

They're up for lead role

MORE than 2,900 children auditioned and now 350 young Londoners have won roles in a special new version of the acclaimed Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, *Annie*, set to hit the West End this summer.

Eight lucky girls will get to star as orphan Annie, the plucky 11-year-old in 1930s America who dreams of escaping the clutches of the horrible child-hating orphanage matron, Miss Hannigan, and finding her real parents.

Annie's life gets exciting the day billionaire businessman Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks opens his home to her and her dog, Sandy.

Annie Jr is a special one-hour version adapted from the classic musical – winner of the Best Musical Tony when it premiered in 1977. It includes such unforgettable songs as *It's the Hard Knock Life*, *Easy Street*, *I Don't Need Anything But You* and Annie's eternal anthem of optimism, *Tomorrow*.

Producer-director Matthew Chandler, of P2P Productions, said: "This is a version of *Annie* specially adapted by the original American creative team to be performed by talented young people. It is a fantastic opportunity for all the youngsters involved – and features one of the greatest child roles ever written."

Annie Jr will run for a four-week season at the Arts Theatre in the West End from Wednesday, 29 July to Monday, 31 August.

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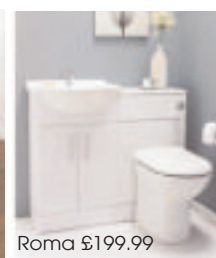
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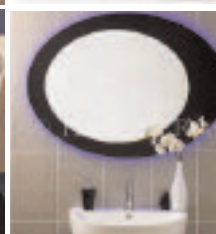
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TALK OF THE TOWN ★ *The entertainment scene across London*

london Listings

City of London Festival

Until July 10th.
The Danish String Quartet will debut at the festival with a refreshing programme of classical music combined with Nordic folk tunes in the elegant surrounds of Plaisterers' Hall on Monday, June 22nd at 7.30pm.

Importance of Being Earnest at the Vaudeville Theatre

To November 7
David Suchet stars as Lady Bracknell in Oscar Wilde's much loved masterpiece. Directed by Adrian Noble, Wilde's superb satire on Victorian manners is one of the funniest plays in the English language – the delightful repartee and hilarious piercing of hypocrisy and pomposity can still make you laugh out loud. Two bachelor friends, the adorable dandy Algernon Moncrieff and the utterly reliable John Worthing JP, lead double lives to court the attentions of the exquisitely desirable Gwendolyn Fairfax and Cecily Cardew. The gallants must then grapple with the riotous consequences of their deceptions, and with the formidable Lady Bracknell. www.importanceofearnest.com

Andre Rieu's 2015 Maastricht Concert at Vue, Fulham Broadway

July 17th - 23rd
The king of waltz performs in his home town joined by his famous Johann Strauss Orchestra.

Buckingham Palace summer opening

August 1st to September 27th 2015
Visit Buckingham Palace, the official London residence of the Queen, this summer. Buckingham Palace is one of the world's few remaining working royal palaces - don't miss the chance to see it. Explore the lavishly furnished State Rooms, containing some of the greatest treasures from the Royal Collection. Highlights include paintings by Rembrandt, Rubens, Vermeer and Poussin, Canaletto and Claude. Sculpture by Canova and Chantrey. Exquisite examples of Sèvres porcelain. Some of the finest English and French furniture in the world.

Falstaff at the Royal Opera House

To July 18th
Italian baritone Ambrogio Maestri, acclaimed for his performances as Verdi's ageing knight, leads the first revival of Robert Carlsen's colourful production, conducted by Michael Schönwandt. Giuseppe Verdi's final opera tells the tale of a portly knight with an irrepressible appetite for life, love and laughter. Falstaff crowned a career that spanned more than fifty years. Arrigo Boito – with whom Verdi also collaborated on Otello and the revisions for Simon Boccanegra – created a sparkling libretto based on Shakespeare's The Merry

Wives of Windsor and Henry IV Parts I and II. Verdi matched the libretto's sprightliness with a score full of quicksilver switches in mood and tempo. Falstaff had its premiere in Milan in 1893 when Verdi was 79 and was instantly hailed as a masterpiece. Robert Carlsen's production is set in 1950s England and draws out the warmth, love of food and comedy at the heart of the opera. Falstaff moves from comic intrigue, as the 'merry wives' outmanoeuvre the scheming men, to tender romance and infectious merriment.

Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium

July 10th to October 10th
The iconic music of Frank Sinatra is brought to life at one of the capital's most iconic venues in Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium. This multi-media concert, which has the support and endorsement of the singer's family, marks the centenary of Sinatra's birth and features all of his greatest hits including Fly Me To The Moon, New York, New York and My Way. Staged at the West End venue where the legendary entertainer made his 1950 British singing debut, Sinatra: The Man and His Music combines rare and original master recordings with cutting edge technology and never before seen performance footage to celebrate Sinatra's hugely successful music career. Featuring a 24-piece orchestra and a company of 20 dancers, the show takes audiences from Sinatra's formative years to his later life with the help of interviews, family photos and films.

Lovebox music festival, Victoria Park, east London

July 17th and 18th
Over 2 days in East London's Victoria Park, London, Lovebox Festival is a celebration of the best of British and international music talent, dance and the arts. After smashing the charts with their debut album 'Home' a few years ago, Rudimental went back into their Hackney studio to work on their second LP. Now they're Lovebox's Friday headliners.

Prudential RideLondon

August 1 and 2
Developed by the Mayor of London and his agencies, Prudential RideLondon is a world-class festival of cycling. There is no other closed-road event like it that combines the fun and accessible element of a free family ride in central London with the excitement of watching the world's best professional cyclists race in the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey Classic and Prudential RideLondon Grand Prix. Taking a cue from the London Marathon, amateur cyclists also participate in the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 – a 100-mile challenge on the same closed roads as the professionals, with the added incentive of raising money for good causes. To capture it all, the best action is broadcast live on TV in the UK and internationally, to be seen by an audience of millions.

Soldier's war a work in progress

The Dreamers
St James Theatre **

THE manner in which this project came to fruition is a dream story in itself, writes *Nicky Sweetland*.

When James Beeny and Gina Georgio first wrote a song about a First World War soldier called Reggie they could never have imagined where it would lead. They decided to explore the story more and wrote a whole musical based on the real-life hero.

Whilst playing a selection of the songs at gigs they were heard by actress Amanda Redman, who encouraged them further until the show, in its current form, was born. In another dreamlike turn of events it was then seen by Robert Mackintosh, artistic director of the St James Theatre, who was so impressed he offered the company a week-long residence at the theatre.

The musical follows Reggie, his company of soldiers and their families, who are all from the



■ **BAND OF BROTHERS:** Reggie and fellow soldiers.

same small town. As they embark on their journey to the trenches the songs reflect their feelings and fears, with some moving music and great lyrics. Unfortunately, this only made up a small part of the show, with the majority of the dialogue coming from narrations by actors projected onto a screen behind. This was a shame as when the cast were performing the pace was good and the story had greater impact.

Musically, I thought there was a good mix of styles, none from the period but all helping to create the right ambience. The band being on stage behind the actors was a bit distracting and I would have preferred for them to not take the centre stage position. The calibre of singing was really superb and when you consider that most of the cast are from a non-professional background they really gave an excellent account of themselves. Nick Pavely as Reggie had the most beautiful tenor voice, with such sublime clarity and inflection that I could have just listened to him all evening.

The acting did show some amateur traits unfortunately, with the overuse of hand movements and generally not enough purposeful movement.

This to me still felt like a work in progress, but it's definitely a show which has huge potential. It really needs to rely less on the band and the projections and more on the stage performances.



■ **FOLLOW THAT:** Clive Anderson and his talented team master improvisation at the Adelphi.

Comics on the right lines

Whose Line is it Anyway?
Adelphi Theatre *****

WHOSE Line is It Anyway was a weekly television event in my house when I was teenager. In a home filled with performers this was the perfect programme to unite us once a week in laughter and merriment, writes *Nicky Sweetland*.

The format, which had huge success in the US as well as in Britain, has been revamped into a two-act live show that ran for two weeks at the Adelphi Theatre. Reuniting some of the original cast members, this promised to be a real feast of nostalgia and it lived up to all of my expectations.

The stage was set in imitation of the TV studio of old, and host Clive Anderson kicked off proceedings with his obligatory blend of acerbic sarcasm and old-world charm before introducing

the contestants, improvising stalwarts Josie Lawrence, Greg Proops, Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood.

This is essentially a quiz show, but not in the usual sense of the word, with skilful and sometimes wondrous improvised performance the lynchpin in what is one of the most entertaining shows I've seen this year.

The cast of seasoned professionals are true masters of this magical craft. Lawrence in particular proves that it is possible to make up an entire song just from a suggestion if you have enough guile and talent. Her ode to the dead bird really was hilarious and when joined by the equally astute Brad Sherwood, the musical elements were astonishingly high quality. Sherwood's song about Sarah, a very enthusiastic audience volunteer, and his almost non-stop rapping in the Kick it gave a masterclass for any

would-be performers. The classic Bend, Sit, Stand game showed Greg Proops and Colin Mochrie are still as agile as they were 20 years ago and when the quartet joined forces in a *Les Misérables*-style anthem they proved once again their genius in this genre.

The show relies on audience suggestion for the themes of the games, which is always a risk, but luckily on this occasion we were blessed with very witty accomplices within the auditorium, which made for some side splitting exchanges. As expected the theatre was filled with the more mature participant, but that said, my teenage companion spent much of the performance roaring with laughter.

I'm hoping it won't be the last we see of this fantastic format and would love to see it lead to another stint on stage or even back on our screens.

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TALK OF THE TOWN ★ The entertainment scene across London

Loud and proud, city celebrates



■ **HAPPY DAYS:** Revellers enjoy the party atmosphere at Pride in London.



FOLLOWING the announcement the night before that the US had legalised same sex marriage, this year's Pride celebrations in the capital were even more jubilant than usual, with thousands joining the party and showing their support for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender population.

The annual event, which is one of the largest in the world, aims to provide a platform for every part of London's LGBT community to raise awareness and campaign for the freedoms that allow them to live their lives on a genuinely equal footing with straight friends, family, neighbours and colleagues.

Central London was swathed in rainbow flags for the weekend, which saw an extensive programme of events both in Trafalgar Square and on the streets of Soho as well as the parade through the heart of the West End.

With stars on the main stage including Blue, Collabro and Rebecca Ferguson, revellers bathed in the glorious sunshine and enjoyed the carnival atmosphere.

There were two stages to choose from in Soho, with Wardour Street boasting the cabaret stage and Dean Street the Women's stage, where you could enjoy acts ranging from the fabulous Bambi Boo to the indomitable Margaret Thatcher, Queen of Soho.

The festivities continued on Sunday with Pride in the Park at Vauxhall Pleasure gardens, where, along with entertainment and stalls, the inaugural Pride in London Parade Awards were presented.



■ **PLENTY TO CHEER:** Pride event supporters, above, and performers, below, revel in the occasion.



Majestic Menzel's queen of show hits

Idina Menzel Wembley Arena

ACCLAIMED *Frozen* and *Wicked* star Idina Menzel stopped off at the Wembley Arena last week on the final UK date of her world tour.

The singer, who has received worldwide acclaim after voicing Queen Elsa in the smash-hit Disney animated film *Frozen*, spent a week performing in the UK, finishing in the capital, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Menzel played the Green Witch Elphaba in both the original Broadway and West End casts of *Wicked*, the musical based on the Gregory Maguire novel about Oz's Wicked Witch of the West. Having lived in the city for six months whilst performing at The Apollo Victoria, London has had an obvious impact on the American star and she told BBC1's *the One Show* that she would like to live this side of the pond. This affinity was also apparent during the concert, in which she was visibly quite humbled to be playing at the iconic venue.

The show opened with the *Wicked* standard *Defying Gravity*, a song which really made her name and was an instant hit with the army of devoted fans. Although she was obviously suffer-



■ **THE VOICE:** Idina Menzel wowed the Wembley audience.

ing from a cold, Menzel's vocals were really phenomenal, with such power and clarity that it was a feast for the ears.

Long before she found fame as a Disney vocal artist, Menzel has commanded a cult following from both her performances in *Wicked* and in another cult musical *Rent*, the show which gave her her first big break and of which she speaks with passion and sensitivity. After kicking her shoes off and strolling down into the auditorium she invited some very excitable audience members to join her in singing *Take Me or Leave Me*, from the show, and I had to muster all of my resolve not to let the inner fan girl take over and to run towards the stage

crying: "Me, me!" Quite apart from the charismatic delivery of some of the world's most famous musical theatre songs, Menzel also proved to be completely at home in front of her fans, giving an honest and relaxed account of herself, at one point apologising to those who were hoping for a Disney Princess after she had "cursed".

This was a truly majestic performance and one I am so pleased to have seen.

The final flurry was the worldwide smash-hit song, *Let It Go*, which Menzel sang with customary strength and rapture and which left this appreciative audience on their feet begging for more.

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Full job description and application details may be requested from the school office, on 020 8557 1519 or juniorschool@alleyns.org.uk.

Closing date: Friday 12th July, 12 noon.

Interviews will be held on Monday 20th July 2015.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check. Alleyn's is an Equal Opportunities employer.

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LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport

Polter is R's new main man

GERMAN striker Sebastian Polter has joined QPR from FSV Mainz 05 for an undisclosed fee.

Polter, 24, arrives in west London on a three-year deal.

The fair-haired Polter, who spent last season on loan at Union Berlin, scoring an impressive 14 goals in 29 appearances in the German second tier, is excited about the challenge of playing in England.

"It's my dream to play in England, so I couldn't be happier. To play for Queens Park Rangers at this stage of my career is really good for me and something I am very excited about.

"It's a physical league but I'm a physical player, a team player, and I feel I will adapt."

R's Head Coach Chris Ramsey believes Polter's game is well-suited to English football, telling the official website www.qpr.co.uk: "I am pleased to bring Seb in. He's a player who has been under the radar a little bit and our scouts have done a good job in identifying him. I am really looking forward to working with him.

"He fits the description of what we need for the Championship, he's got a good goalscoring record and looks a very good player.

"He reminds me of a Bobby Zamora of a few years ago, and if he can emulate anything like Bobby achieved here, that will be brilliant for the club.

"I am sure he will

enjoy working with us. This is a great club for him to come to in order to prove himself.

"This is another piece of the jig-saw but we are obviously still looking for more players."

Regular action

The 6ft 4ins tall, right-footed Polter – married with two children and fluent in English – left Mainz because he is eager for regular action. At Mainz, where they played with only one up front, he was never going to get a look-in while Shinji Okazaki was firing in the goals.

Although signed as a striker, Polter was a goalkeeper in his youth. There is YouTube footage of him making an impressive save from a free-kick for Mainz when he had to deputise for their regular keeper after he'd been sent off against Augsburg in 2013.

■ WHO says football is a young man's game? QPR have granted a one-year contract extension to defender Clint Hill – at the age of 36.

"Everyone knows what QPR means to me and I am delighted to be part of the new philosophy that's filtering through the club. It's exciting times, and there's been a lot of good work done behind the scenes, says Hill, who joined R's in 2010 and has made 170



LOFTUS ROAD RANGERS REVIEW

With Tony McDonald

appearances.

"My longevity has surprised me – and it's probably surprised a few others as well. But I've looked after myself well over the years and I'm still going somehow!

"This season I want to remain fit and put pressure on players that are in the team. I want to set standards in training and prove to myself that I can still do this.

"Professionally, this is the longest I have been at any club and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here. There have been a few down-turns along the way but as a team and as a club we have always reacted to them and bounced back. I hope we can do the same again this year."

■ QPR hope to build a strong bridge between their first team squad and the academy by appointing Steve Gallen as first team coach.

A lifelong R's fan, Steve is the brother of former QPR captain Kevin Gallen and has worked with the club's younger age groups for the past 18 years.

Head coach Chris Ramsey has made it clear he wants to bring younger players through the system and into the first team fold, and Gallen says: "Seeing so many of the younger lads in the first team squad, who have come through the ranks, it makes me feel this is a really good time for me to become involved at this level."

Costa scores in Kuwait

■ WHILE most players on holiday won't even look at a pair for football boots, let alone lace them up, it seems Chelsea striker Diego Costa just can't resist donning his Chelsea kit and bagging a hatful of goals. That's just what the Brazil-born Spain striker did last week while in the Middle East.

Costa, who had an injury-plagued first season at Chelsea but was still top-scorer, took part in a five-a-side tournament in Kuwait.

Wearing Chelsea colours, he played against a side wearing the red of Nottingham Forest. True to his marauding and ultra physical style, Costa failed to treat the game as a friendly.

In a 7-0 rout, he scored five goals and was seen sending an opponent to the ground in trademark ferocious fashion, even nutmegging an embarrassed goalkeeper for good measure!

■ AS expected, Chelsea have been affected by a number of early season fixture changes following the announcement of live Premier League TV dates.

The opening game, at home to Swansea City on Saturday, August 8, will now kick-off at the later time of 5.30pm.

Blues visit title rivals Manchester City on Sunday, August 16 for a 4.00pm kick-off, while their match at West Bromwich Albion on Sunday, August 23 will start at 1.30pm.

Chelsea go to Everton on Saturday, September 12 for a 12.45pm kick-off, the same lunch-time start time for the home encounter against Arsenal on September 19.

■ FULHAM'S home Championship match against west London rivals QPR will be screened live by Sky Sports.

The match will be played at Craven Cottage on Friday, September 25, kick-off 7.45pm.



■ DIEGO Costa celebrating his goal for Chelsea against Swansea City last season. The teams meet in the opening game of the new campaign, with a delayed kick-off time Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

■ THREE successive NatWest T20 Blast victories have brought some respectability to Surrey's white-ball season.

Last Friday's emphatic eight-wicket win against London neighbours Middlesex in front of another sell-out crowd at The Kia Oval was their most satisfying yet.

Having reduced the visiting Panthers to 105-9 in 20 overs, with the left arm spin of Zafar Ansari particularly effective in bowling through his allowance at just 4.25 an over, Surrey secured victory with 32 balls to spare.

Kumar Sangakkara (40) and Gary Wilson (25) were the not out batsmen after Jason Roy (21) and Tom Curran (16) had paved the way.

Sri Lankan legend Sangakkara had led the attack 48 hours earlier, when scoring 34 in a four-wicket win over Gloucestershire. Jason Roy (33) and Ben Foakes (27) gave him most support in another home success but it was Azhar Mahmood (22*) who stole the spotlight in a dramatic finish.

With nine runs required off the final over, Mahmood hit the final ball for six over square leg to clinch a thrilling victory as Surrey scrambled to 155-6.

Sixth-placed Surrey will be aiming for their fifth T20 win in 10 games when they visit Hampshire – currently one place below them in the southern group – at the Ageas Bowl, Southampton tomorrow (Friday, 7.00pm).

■ TWO defeats in 24 hours have left Middlesex rock bottom of the NatWest T20 Blast southern section, five points adrift of Somerset.

After losing to Sussex by seven wickets at Lord's, Middlesex slumped to their seventh consecutive T20 defeat when they crashed to an eight-wicket defeat against local rivals Surrey at The Kia Oval the following night.

Only three Middlesex batsmen – Eoin Morgan (27), James Franklin (26) and Paul Stirling (23) – managed more than 20 runs as they mustered just 133 from their 20 overs. Sussex easily got them from the loss of three wickets.

Electing to bat first against Surrey, Dawid Malan contributed 40 of Middlesex's meagre 105 for 9 – their lowest total in 10 white-ball matches this season.

They will hope for improvement in their next T20 encounter, against in-form Essex at Richmond's Old Deer Park tomorrow (Friday, 5.30pm).

■ MIDDLESEX returned to winning ways in the LV= Championship first division with a comfortable nine-wicket victory against Hampshire at Lord's.

After bowling out struggling Hants for 176 in the first innings, Middlesex were 330 all-out in response, with Nick Compton leading the way on 87, well supported by John Simpson (64) and Ollie Rayner (52).

Although the visitors fared slightly better to register 227 all out at the second time of asking, the hosts cruised to their target of 74 runs for the loss of just one wicket (Paul Stirling) in 17.4 overs. Sam Robson (36) and Compton (16) were the not-out batsmen.

Middlesex skipper James Franklin said: "We had a



Surrey blast out Middlesex



■ SURREY'S Zafar Ansari had Middlesex in a spin Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

pretty tough drawn game at Uxbridge in our last Championship match, so we had to win this game to stay up with the leaders of the division (Yorkshire and Durham).

"The bowlers were excellent in this match, led by James Harris. I knew him as a teenager when I played at Glamorgan, and he has always had a lot of talent.

"I've no doubt that he can go on and play for England. He just needs to keep taking the numbers of wickets he has been taking this season – with another eight in this game – and then that sort of thing tends to look after itself."

Their next Championship game commences on Saturday, when Somerset visit Merchant Taylor's School at Northwood.

■ SURREY'S promotion bid is still on track following their crushing defeat of Gloucestershire by an innings and 180 runs.

Batting first at The Kia Oval, they racked up 448 all out, with Ben Foakes hitting a dominant 188, Dean Elgar on 98 and half centuries from Zafar Ansari (64) and Gareth Batty (50).

A devastating bowling spell by Tom Curran earned him final figures of 7-20 as Gloucestershire were skittled out for 113, well short of avoiding the follow on.

They fared little better in their seconds innings, reaching 155 at the fall of their last wicket as Curran claimed another two scalps.

KENSINGTON and Chelsea CC 1st XI took on New Calypsonians 1st XI at Kings House. Winning the toss and batting first on a beautiful day for cricket, KCCC posted a mammoth total of 311-6 after 55 overs before declaring.

Nathan Richards top scored with 74 from 78 deliveries, followed by Ammad Atee's 61 and a quick-fire 61 from Praveen Jadhav. In reply, New Calypsonians started well, getting to 50-1 before Shukdeb Das (aka 'Rocket') demolished the opposition with his pace and swing to achieve career-best bowling figures of 6-26. New Calypsonians were all out for 86, falling 225 short of the target.



■ NADIM Haider at his Sunday best for KCCC

KCCC 2nd XI restricted GWR CC to 179 at Ealing. An opening stand of 95 between Zayn Hussain and Sunny Surisczner set the tone for the chase. Surisczner fell five runs short of his 50, while Hussain ended up four shy of his maiden hundred. But KCCC did well to chase it down within 38 overs, with seven wickets to spare.

Unfortunately, **KCCC 3rd XI** couldn't make it three wins out of three for the club, losing to Church Boys CC by five wickets.

KCCC Sunday XI drew against neighbours Turnham Green and Poly CC. Winning the toss and batting first, KCCC posted an impressive total of 313 in just 34.3 overs.

Top scorer was skipper Nadim Haider 70 (from 54), followed by another quick-fire knock by Praveen Jadhav 62 (34). The opposition managed 164-4 from their 45 overs.

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Flop Falcao has point to prove

DIDI Drogba's replacement is the much-heralded Radamel Falcao who signed a one-year loan deal from Monaco last week.

When Chelsea arrive for their pre-season tour of the USA, where they will be based a little over the border in Montreal, Canada, on July 16, Falcao will be there to join up with his new team-mates.

Unsurprisingly, following the Colombian's inglorious exit from Manchester United, where he scored a paltry four times while on loan last year, he's happy to be at a top-level club once again.

Speaking through his agent, he said: "I am very happy to be joining Chelsea and can't wait to start training and help with our aim of retaining the league title and being successful in Europe."

Falcao, 29, joined Argentina's River Plate in 2001 before moving to Europe to sign for Portuguese side Porto. He moved to Spain in 2011 when Atletico Madrid secured his signature.

He came up against Chelsea in the 2012 Super Cup and brought his goal-scoring prowess to the attention

● By LWN reporter Paul Lagan
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of the Blues by bagging a hat-trick in a humiliating 4-1 defeat for the west Londoners.

Somewhat bizarrely, though, he moved on to French League Monaco, where his bank balance became a lot larger than his trophy cabinet.

ACL injury

He sustained an anterior cruciate ligament injury, which meant he failed to play in the 2014 World Cup finals.

But now he is a Blue and will not feel out of place or alone alongside former Atleti team-mates Filipe Luis, Diego Costa and Thibaut Courtois.

While not officially part of the loan deal that takes Falcao off Monaco's payroll for another season, Chelsea will loan midfielder Mario Pasalic to the Ligue 1 outfit.

Chelsea signed the promising 20-year-old last year

from Hajduk Split and farmed him out for a season to Elche in Spain's La Liga.

Someone else Falcao will be more than happy to see is fellow Colombia international Juan Cuadrado. There has been

much speculation all summer that the winger, who was bought from Fiorentina for £27m in January, may end his short stay at Stamford Bridge and seek a return to Italy with Serie A champions Juventus.

But his agent Alessandro Lucci insists that Cuadrado will still be a Blue next season.

"Cuadrado is a Chelsea player," he said. "He is strongly backed by Jose Mourinho who believes in him."

"Juan is fine in London and is very likely to remain at Chelsea. He has interest from other teams but I repeat, Juan is a Chelsea player."

Chelsea play Fiorentina in a warm-up game at The Bridge on August 5, part of the deal that saw Cuadrado come to west London and winger Mohamed Salah go the opposite way on loan.

Egyptian Salah was a hit for the Italians and they had first option on a second season loan deal. The problem

This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE



is that Salah's people won't play ball and have said they want to go elsewhere, notably Inter Milan.

This had led Fiorentina to launch a scathing attack on those clubs wishing to sign him, suggesting they be relegated from Serie A, and they have threatened to sue the player.

Via social media website Twitter, Fiorentina vice-president Paolo Panerai said to the president of the Italian Olympic Committee, Giovanni Malago: "Dear Giovanni, Salah is the final straw. We can no longer tolerate that signatures and rules are worth less than zero."

"If football clubs were to respect transparency rules, then Inter would already have been relegated. Whose money is being used? Is it starting from the Cayman Islands?"

"Michel Platini knows that Inter have broken the UEFA Fair Play rules. For Salah and other players who cost millions, this is the chance to make an example of them."

Looking beyond Terry

Captain John Terry is already back in training before the rest of his team-mates, ensuring that he is ahead of the game before pre-season friendlies starts. He had one of his best ever seasons in a Blues' shirt last year on the back of this fitness regime and is keen to repeat it ahead of the upcoming season.

But Chelsea's hierarchy are looking beyond Terry, to the future, and are keen to land another young, exciting centre-back.

Frenchman Kurt Zouma is already in situ but the Blues are eying VfB Stuttgart defender Antonio Rudiger.

Reports in Germany have said that Bundesliga outfit Wolfsburg have already agreed terms for him but his agent Sahr Senesie has stated that Chelsea are tempted. But, apparently, the player prefers to stay in Germany.

The other area Chelsea are very keen to have sorted is Courtois' back-up goalkeeper. With Petr Cech now at Arsenal, Blues are keen to land his replacement ahead of their tour of the States.

Second thoughts

Their preferred first choice Robert Green, of QPR, is having second thoughts about making the short move to SW6, so Chelsea are now looking elsewhere.

Stoke City's Asmir Begovic is in the frame and the Blues are expected to lodge an £8m bid for the Bosnia stopper this week.

Stoke are keen to make loan moves part of the deal, with already on-loan winger Victor Moses and hot-shot Patrick Bamford, who starred for beaten Championship play-off finalists Middlesbrough last season, likely targets.

But LWN Sport understands that Chelsea would prefer a cash-only deal for Begovic.

■ CONTINUED PAGE 27



FILIPE Luis (right) welcomes his former Atletico Madrid team-mate to Chelsea Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South



Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Jazz player hits right note

FULHAM have signed Jazz Richards, one of Wales' European Championship qualifying heroes, from Swansea City on a three-year deal.

Right-back Richards started 14 games for Whites last season after joining them on loan from Swansea in January.

After returning to his parent club, he featured three times for the Swans in the Premier League before helping Wales to a memorable 1-0 victory over Belgium at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium in June.

Wales boss Chris Coleman, who played for and managed Fulham between 1997 and 2007, sprang a surprise when he picked Richards for his fifth cap in the vital Euro 2016 qualifier but their five-man defence stood firm to pull off an unlikely result against the Group B favourites.

At 24, Richards brings youth and

experience to Craven Cottage. He made more than 50 appearances for Swansea since his first team debut in 2009 and had a successful loan spell with Crystal Palace, where he won promotion to the top sphere in 2013.

Speaking at Fulham's Motspur Park training ground, Richards said: "When I was on loan here last season I settled in straight away with the lads and the staff, and I enjoyed the style of football that Kit Symons was trying to get the team playing. That made me want to come back."

Five-a-side 'dream team'
■ WHITES fans have recently been asked to vote for the club's 'ultimate five-a-side team' and I wonder how many of those who came out on top in the selection process would have been among your picks?

Edwin van der Sar: With more

than three times as many votes as closest rival Mark Schwarzer, the big Dutchman comfortably takes the goalie gloves. I can't imagine the next player who will be persuaded to leave Juventus for Fulham, as van der Sar did when Jean Tigana signed him in 2001.

Brede Hangeland: Signed by Roy Hodgson, the giant Norwegian centre-back played 272 times for the Whites between 2008 and 2014 and just pipped World Cup winning centre-back Bobby Moore to the defensive position. He helped Fulham to a seventh-placed finish in the Premier League and reach the 2010 Europa League final.

George Best: Despite making only 47 appearances for second division Fulham under Alec Stock in the mid-70s, the Northern Ireland genius just beat American Clint Dempsey to the attacking midfield role in this five-a-side

team. Mind you, he might have needed a ball to himself!

Johnny Haynes: A no-brainer for the voters. As no-one has come close to matching his 658 Fulham appearance record, the midfield maestro, one of the finest passers the game has ever seen, was an obvious choice. Fulham's greatest player polled 100 more votes than his closest rival for the playmaker role, Danny Murphy.

Louis Saha: Became a fans' favourite while scoring 32 goals as Whites gained promotion to the top flight in 2000-01. His total 64-goal haul in the Fulham shirt earned him a £12.4m move to Manchester United. Got the striker's vote ahead of Gordon Davies. Personally, I'd have gone for the classy touch of Dimitar Berbatov. Those pinpoint passes from Haynes would stick to him like glue and he wouldn't have to run far, if at all!